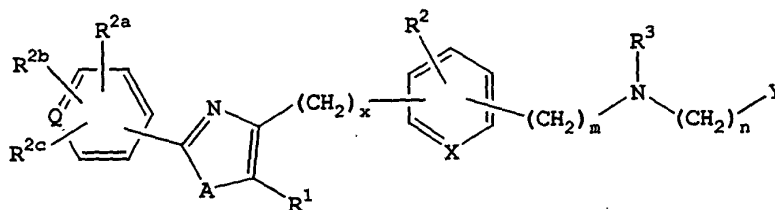
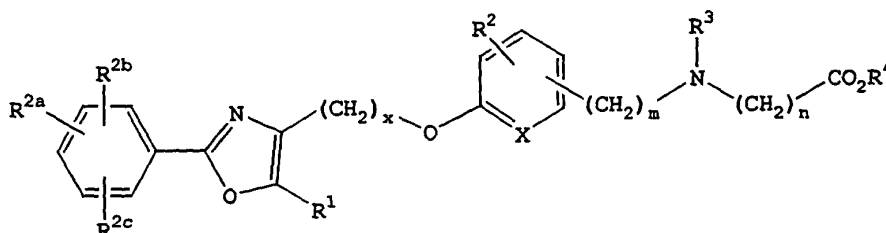


or

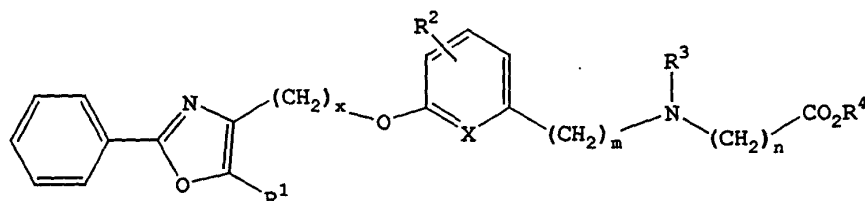
A²
Cont.



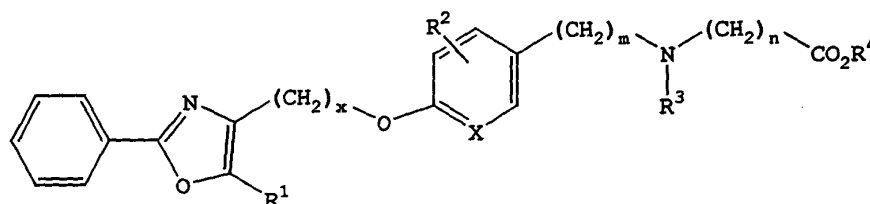
--3. (Amended) The method as defined in Claim 34 wherein the compound employed has the structure



--4. (Amended) The method as defined in Claim 34 wherein the compound employed has the structure



or



--5. (Amended) The method as defined in Claim 34 where in the compound employed (CH₂)_x is alkylene, alkenylene, allenyl, or alkynylene. --

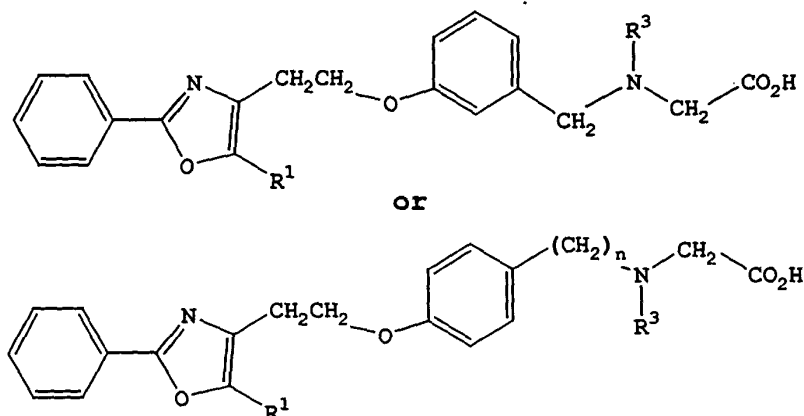
--10. (Amended) The method as defined in Claim 34 where in the compound employed

(CH₂)_x is CH₂, (CH₂)₂, (CH₂)₃, or $\begin{array}{c} \text{CH}_3 \quad \text{CH}_3 \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \text{C} \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \end{array}$, (CH₂)_m is CH₂, or $\begin{array}{c} \text{R}_a \\ | \\ \text{CH} \end{array}$ where R_a is alkyl or alkenyl, (CH₂)_n is CH₂, R¹ is lower alkyl, R² is H, R^{2a} is H, R⁴ is H, and R³ is arylalkyloxycarbonyl,

A³

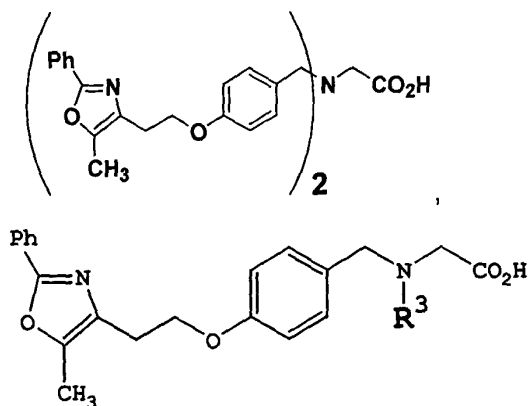
aryloxycarbonyl, haloaryl-oxycarbonyl, alkoxyaryloxycarbonyl, alkylaryloxycarbonyl, aryloxyaryloxycarbonyl, heteroaryloxyarylalkyl, heteroaryloxycarbonyl, arylalkenyloxycarbonyl, cycloalkylaryloxycarbonyl, cycloalkyloxyaryloxycarbonyl, alkyloxyaryloxycarbonyl, arylalkylsulfonyl, arylalkenylsulfonyl, arylthiocarbonyl, cycloheteroalkylalkyloxycarbonyl, cycloheteroalkyloxycarbonyl, or polyhaloalkylaryloxycarbonyl, which may be optionally substituted. --

--14. (Amended) The method as defined in Claim 34 where the compound employed has the structure

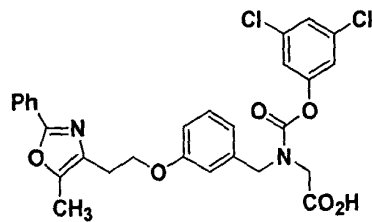
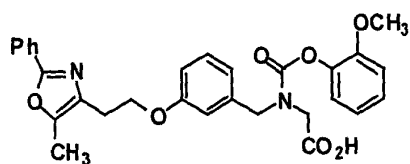
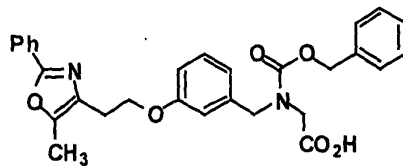
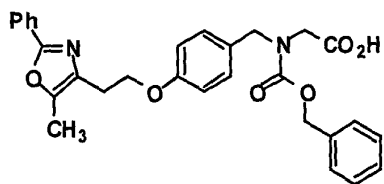


where $(CH_2)_n$ is CH_2 or $\begin{array}{c} CH_3 \\ | \\ -CH- \end{array}$.

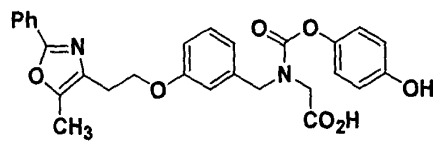
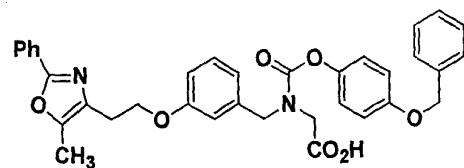
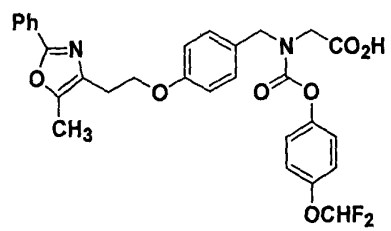
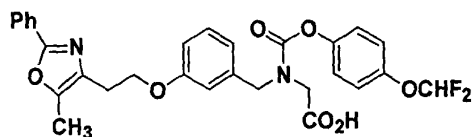
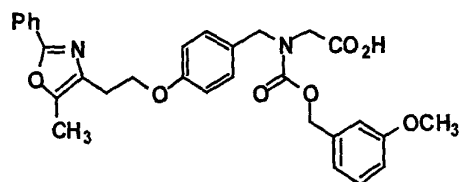
--16. (Amended) The method as defined in Claim 34 wherein the compound employed has the structure

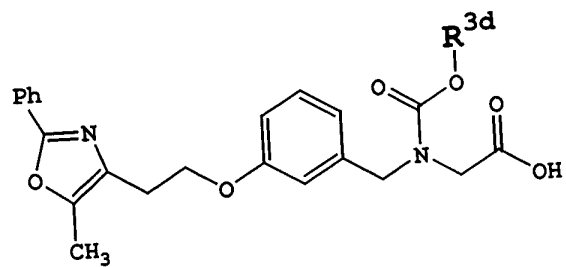


, where $R^3 =$

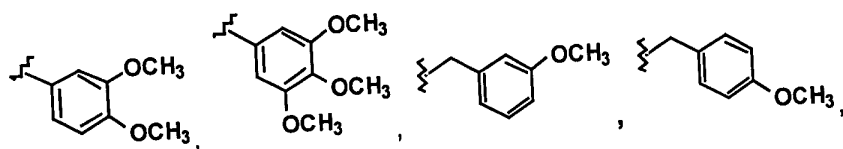
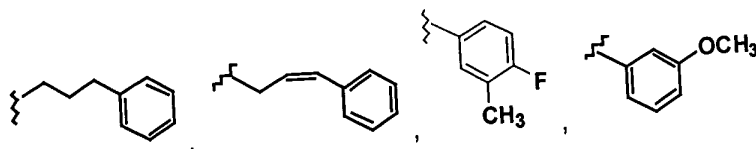
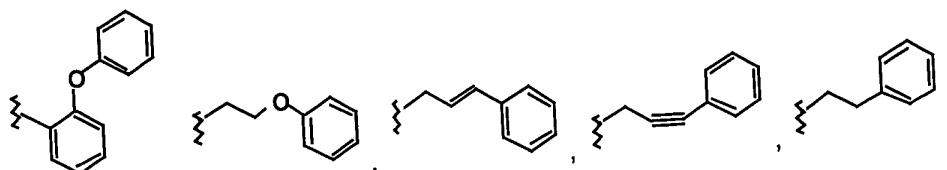
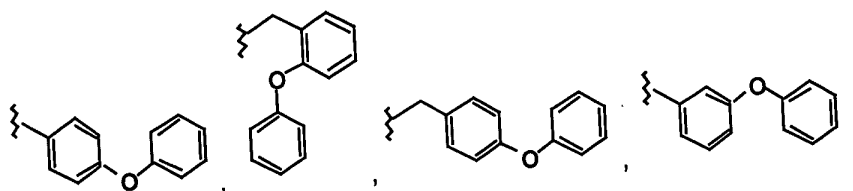
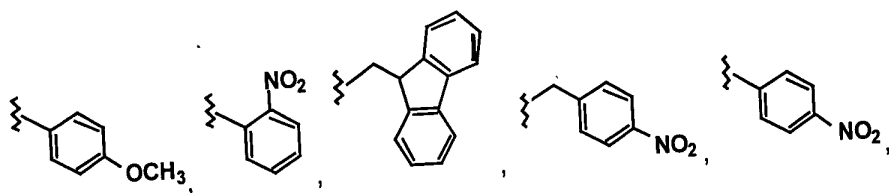
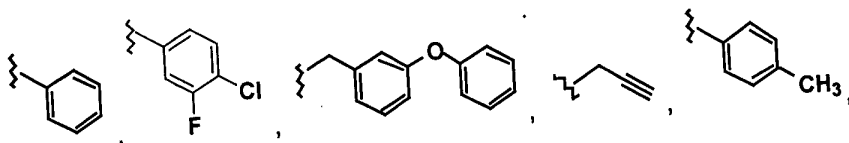


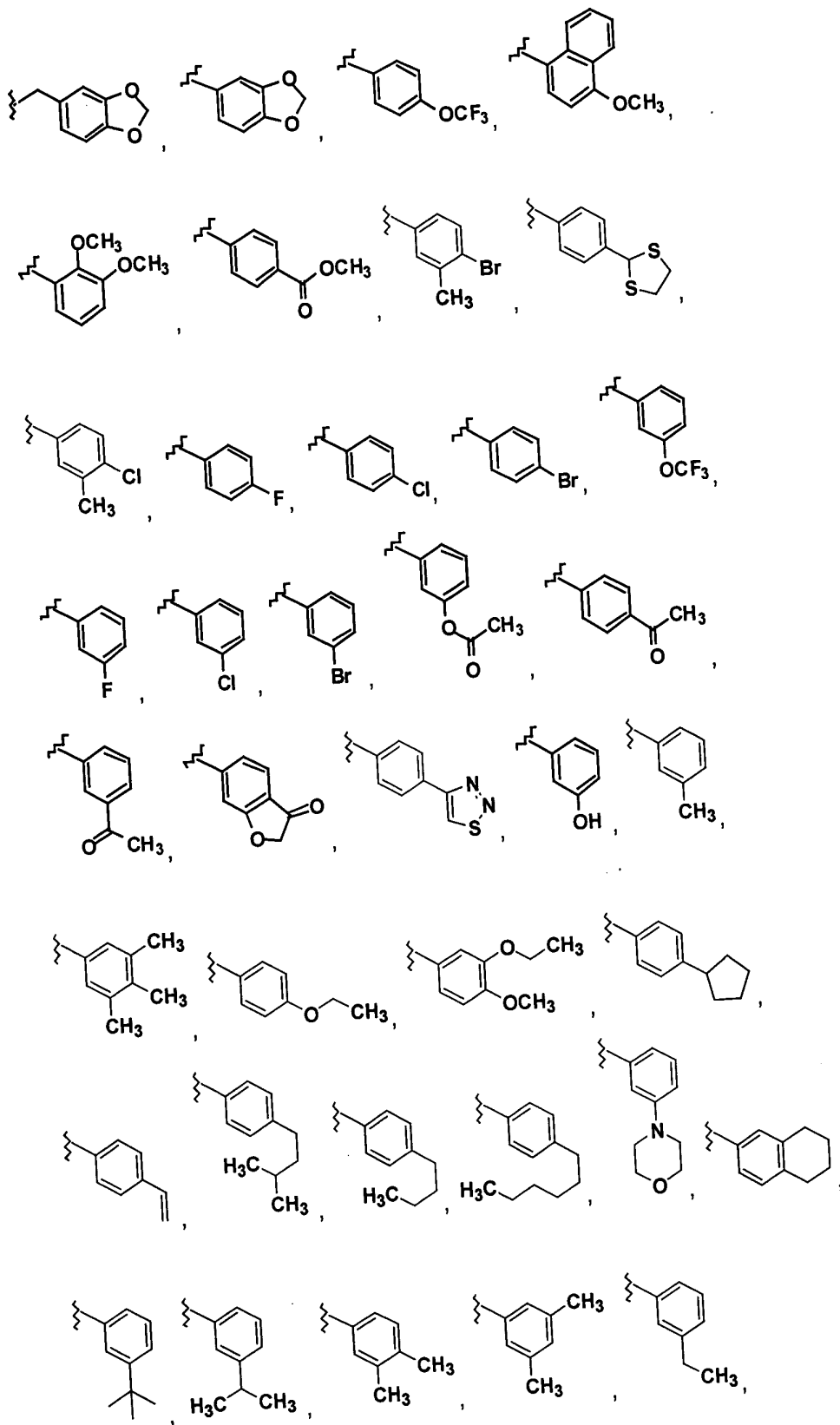
AS
Cont.



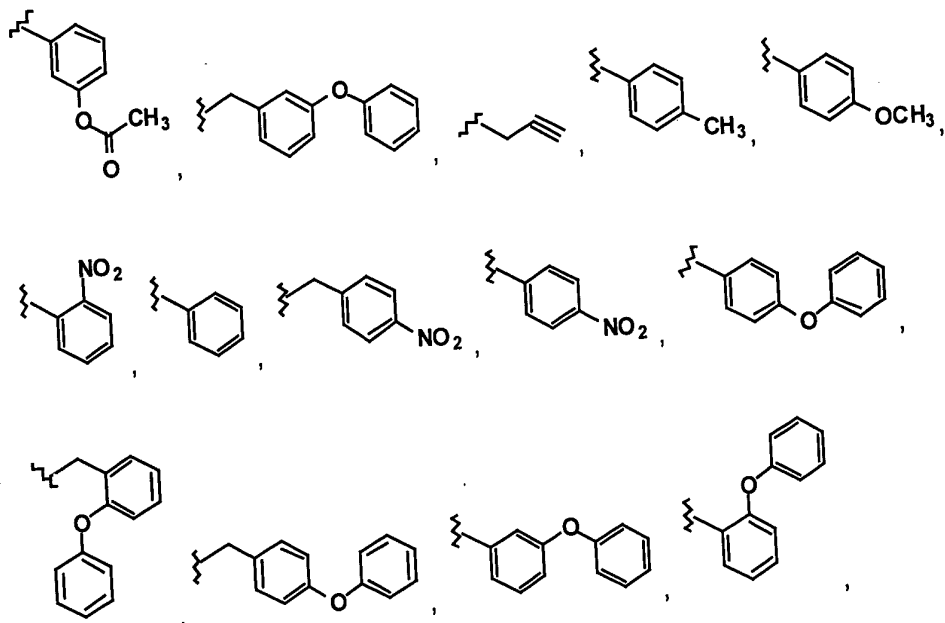
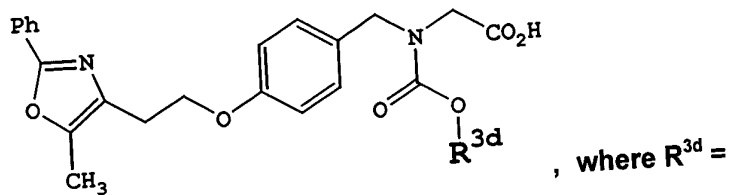
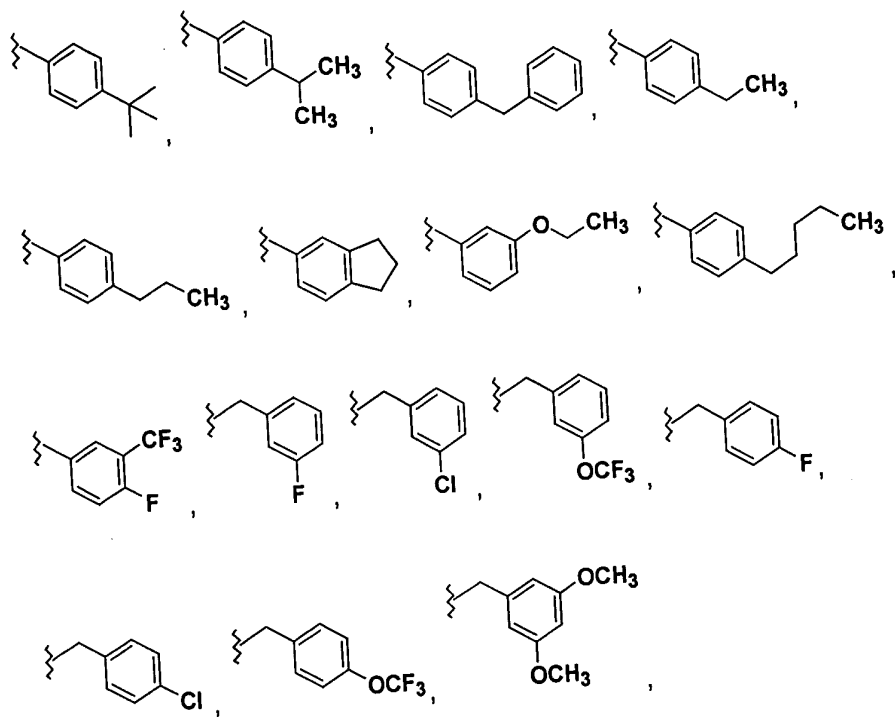


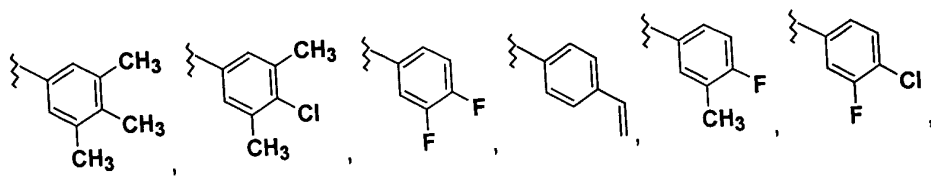
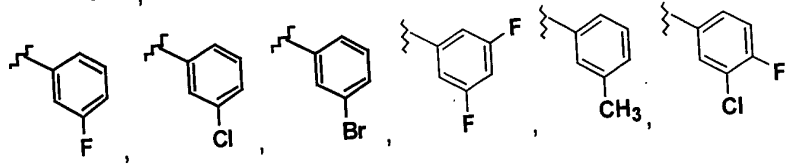
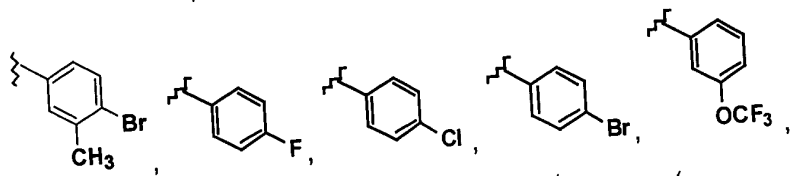
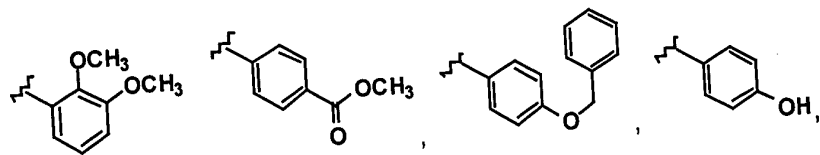
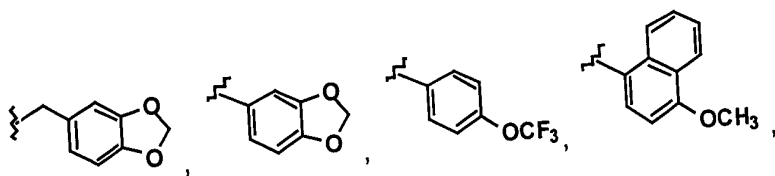
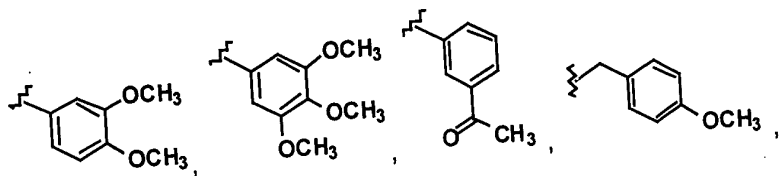
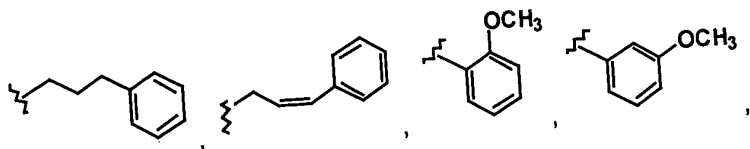
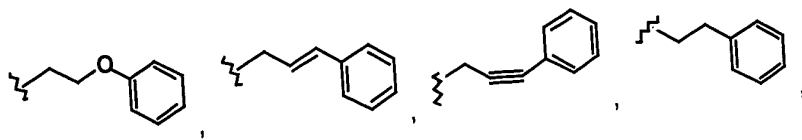
where $R^{3d} =$



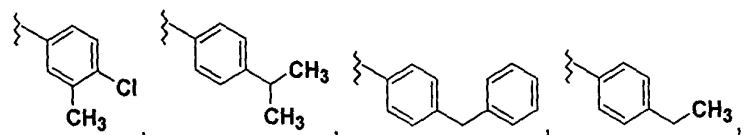
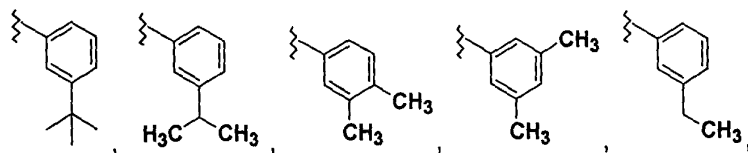
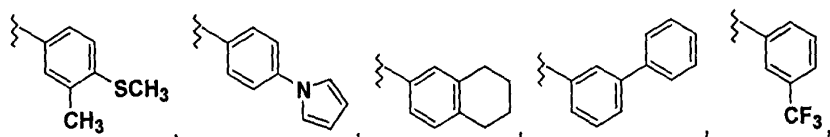


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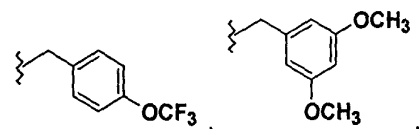
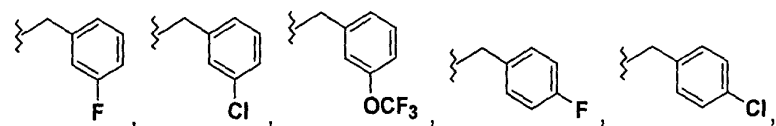
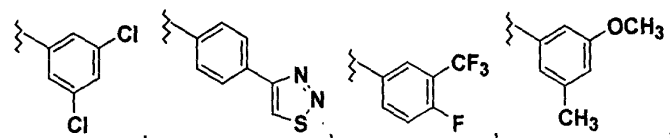
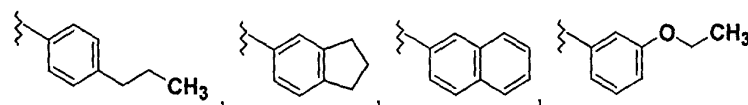


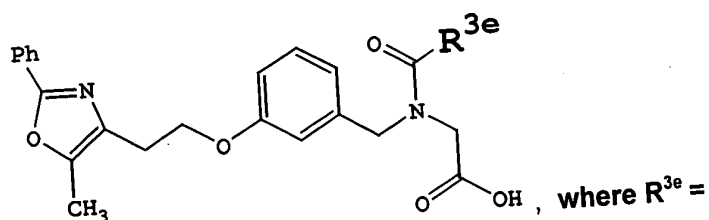
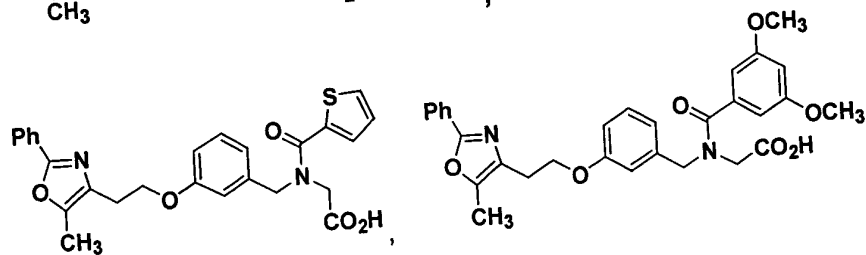
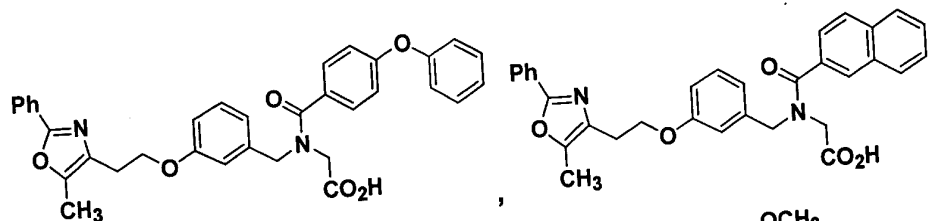
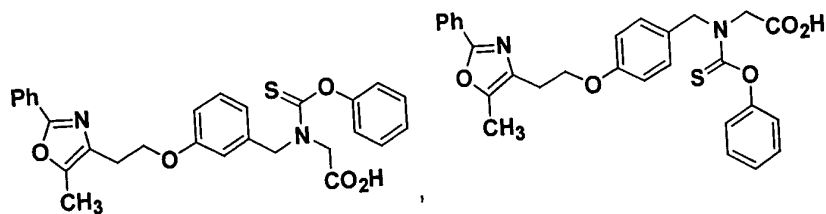
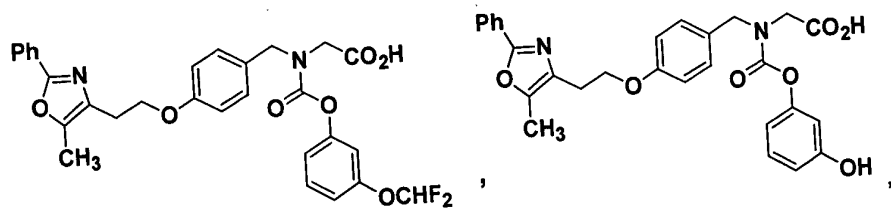
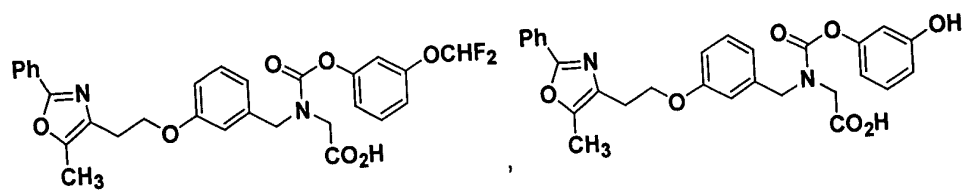
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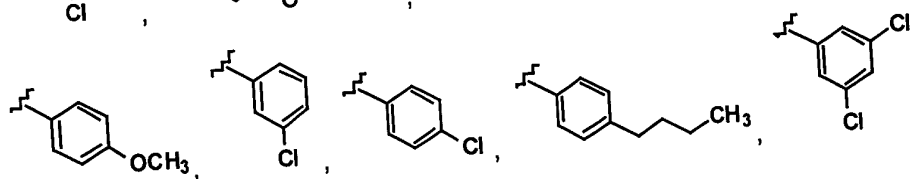
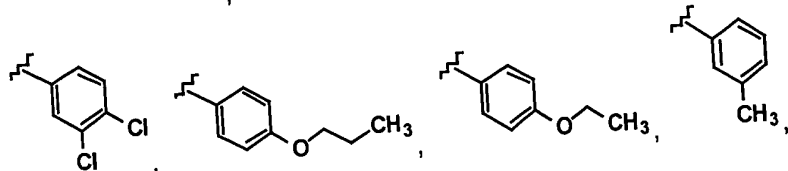
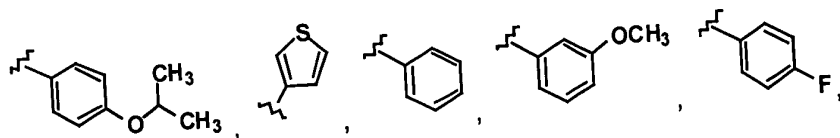
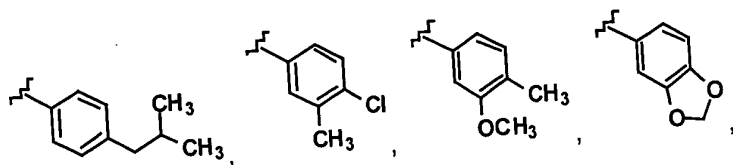
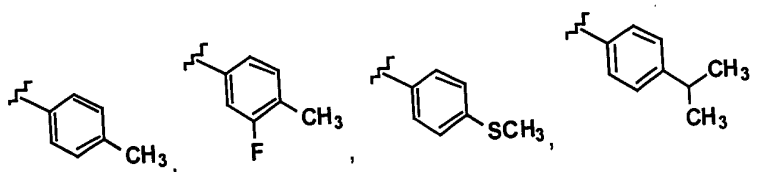
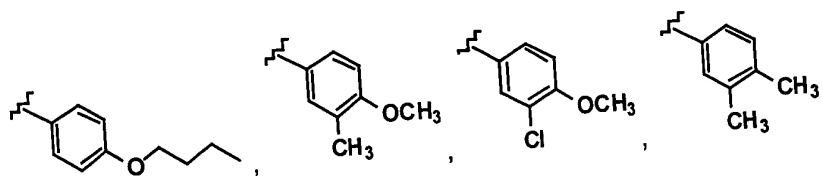
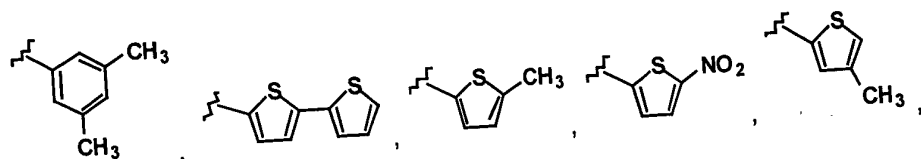
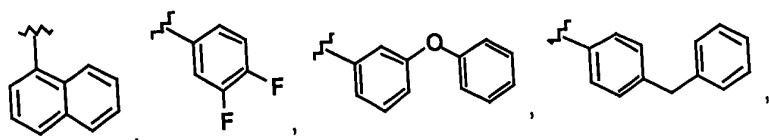


A5

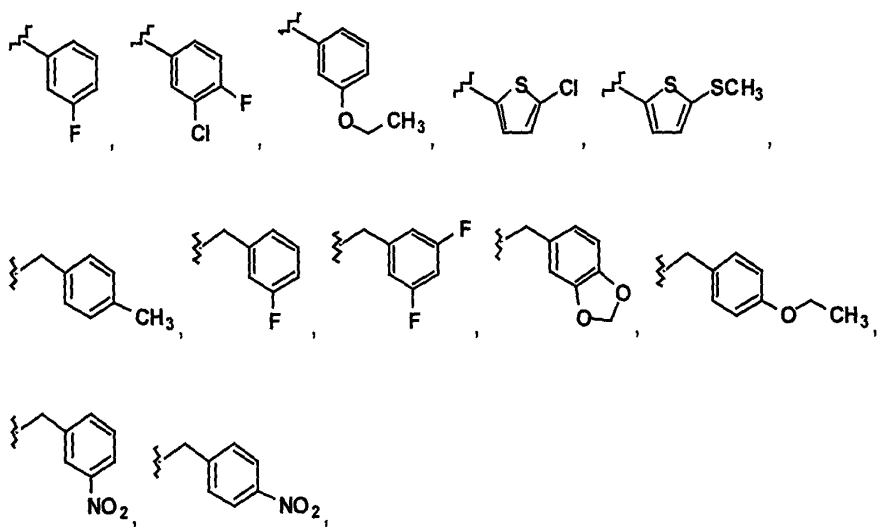
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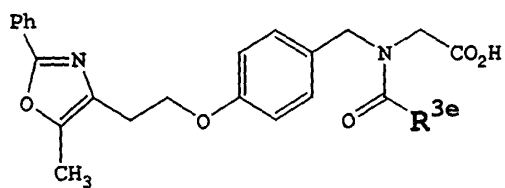




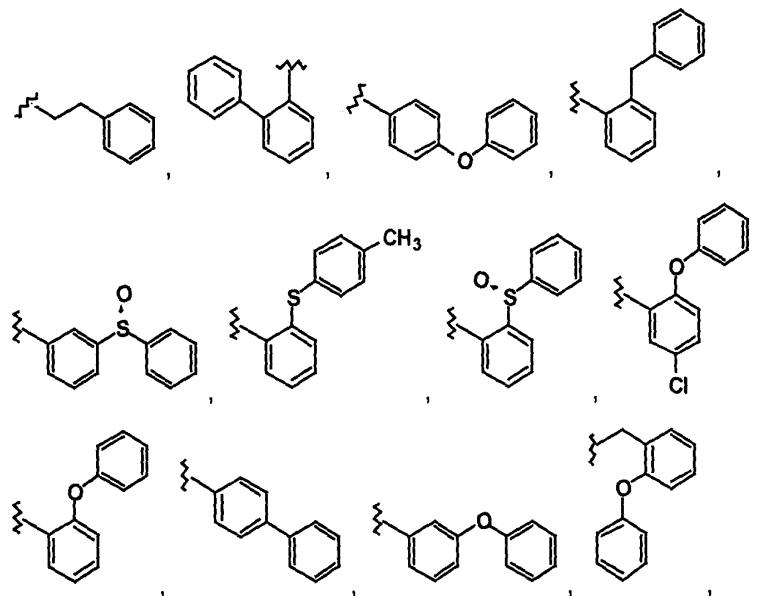
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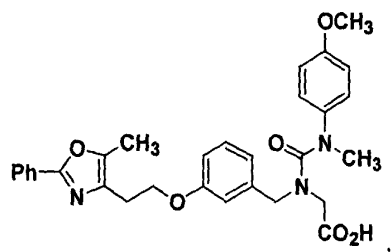
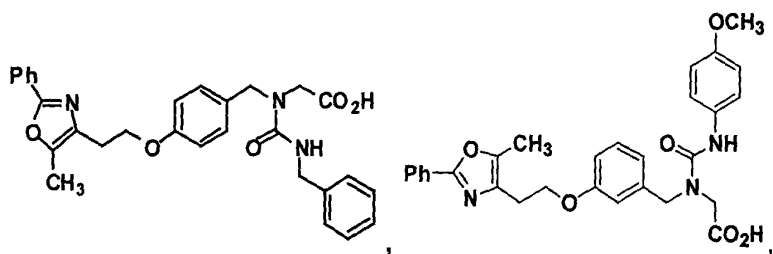
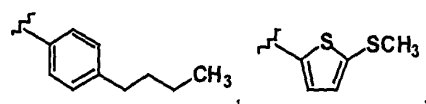
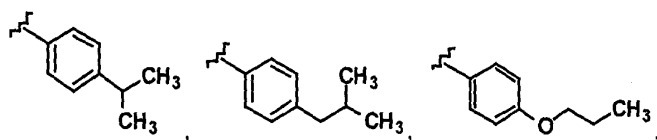
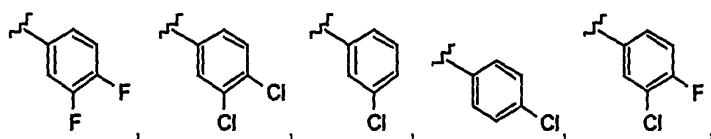
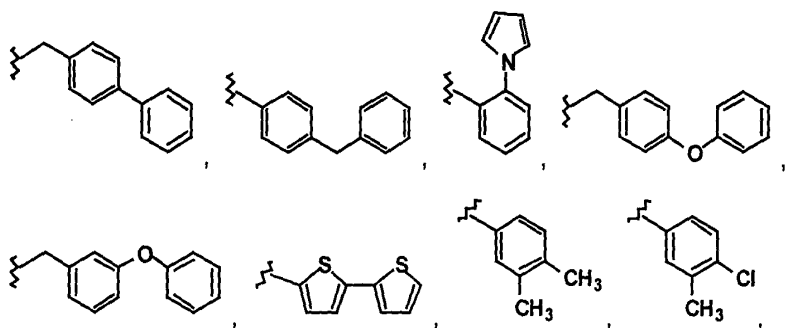


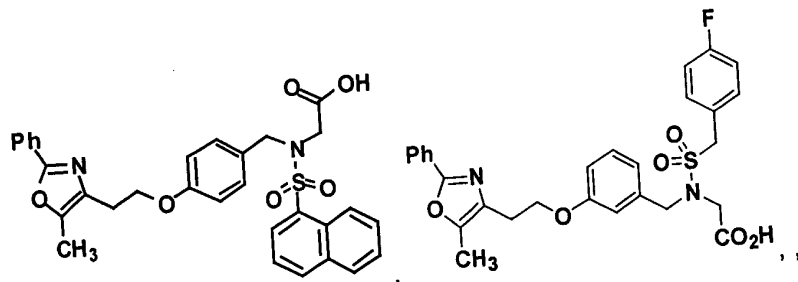
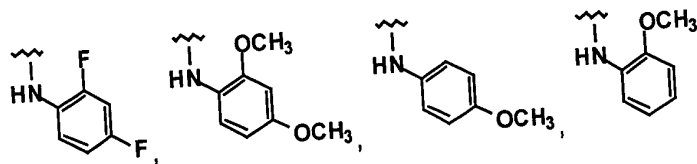
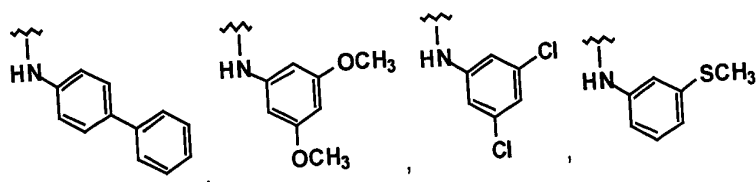
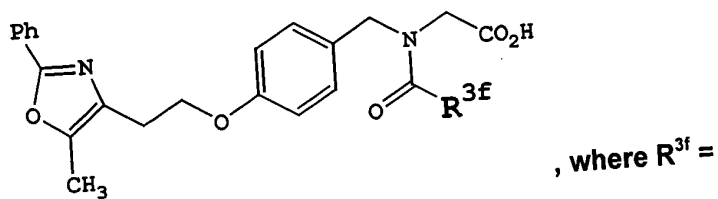
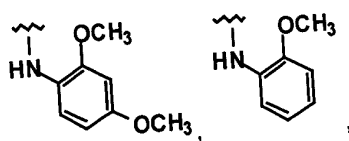
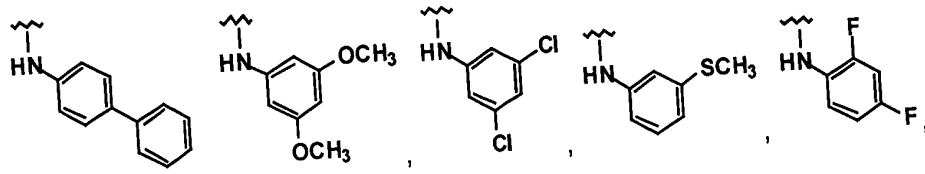
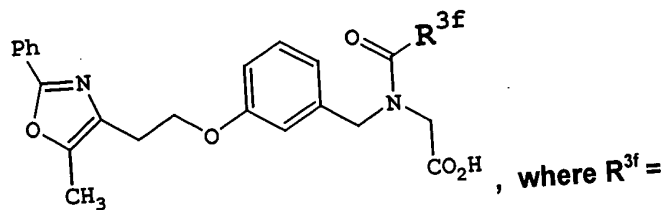
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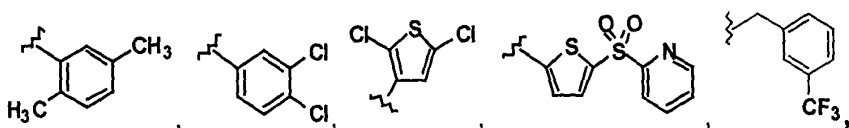
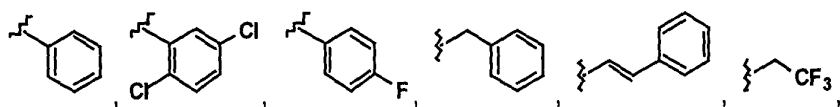
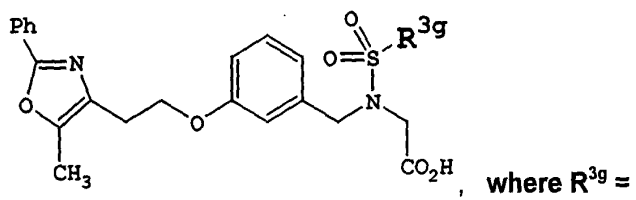


where $R^{3e} =$

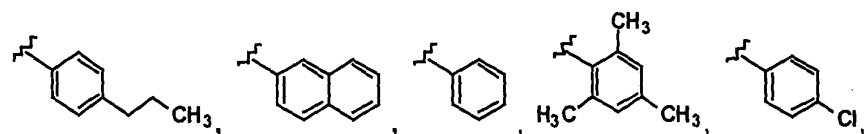
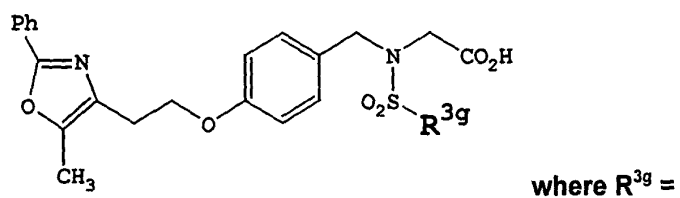
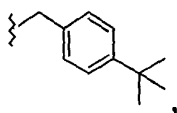
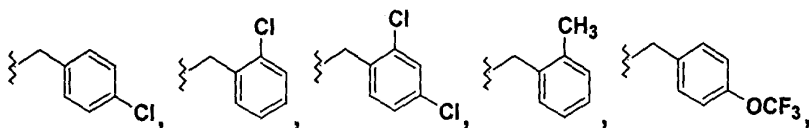
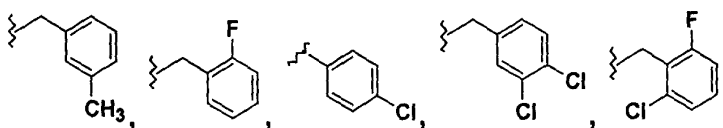


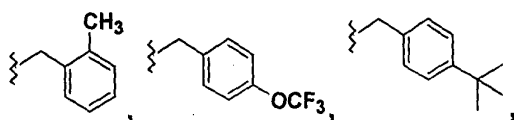






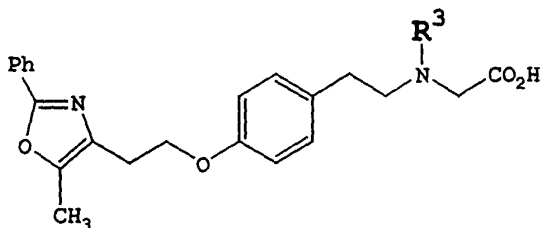
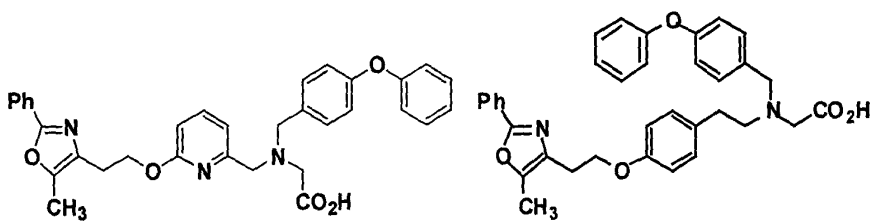
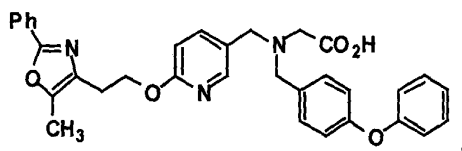
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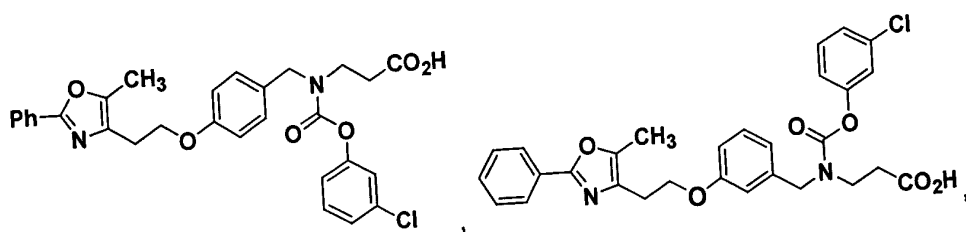
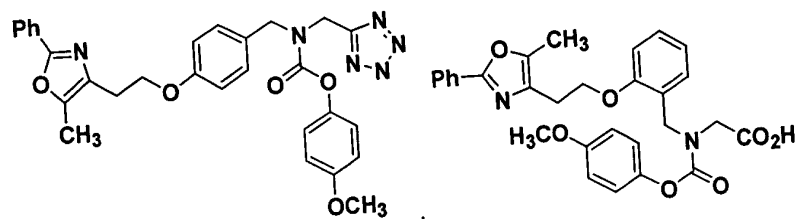
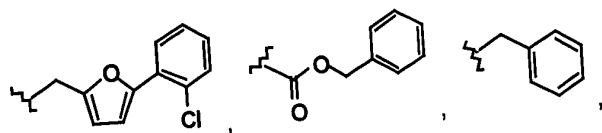


AS

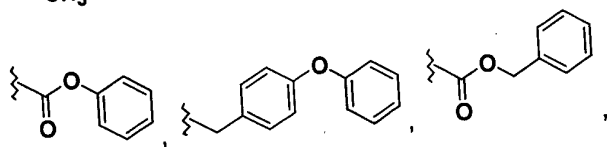
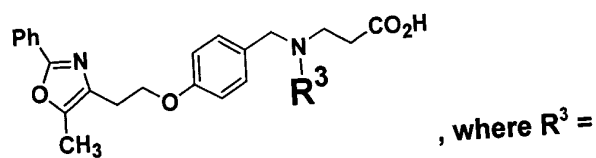
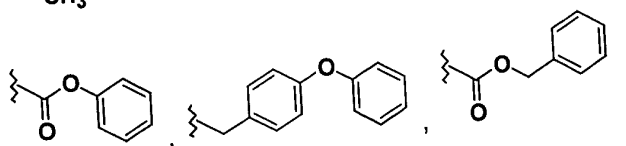
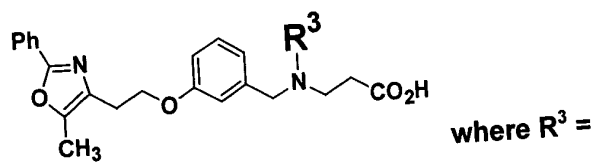
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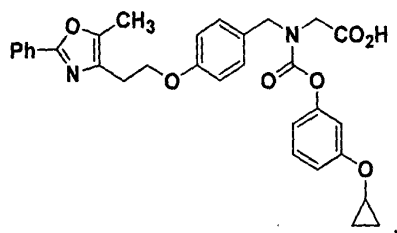
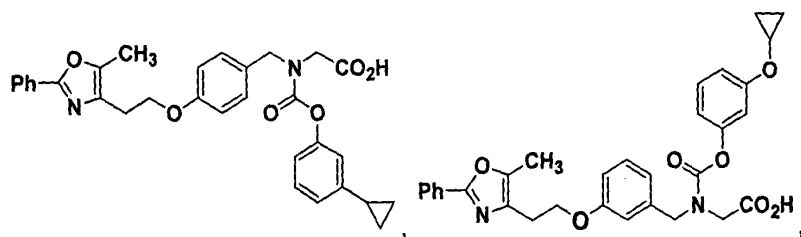


, where $R^3 =$

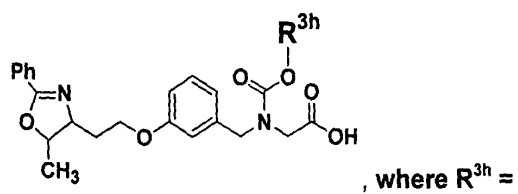
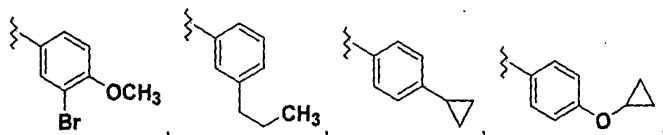
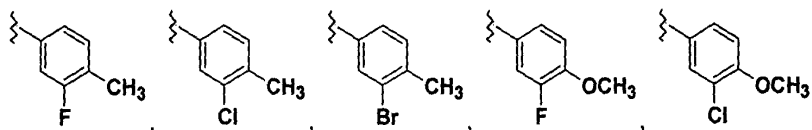
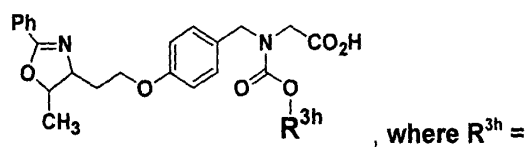


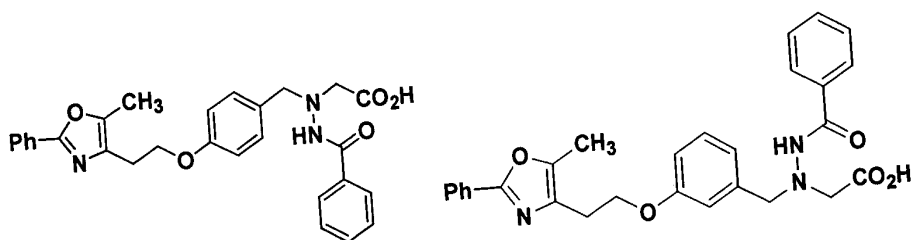
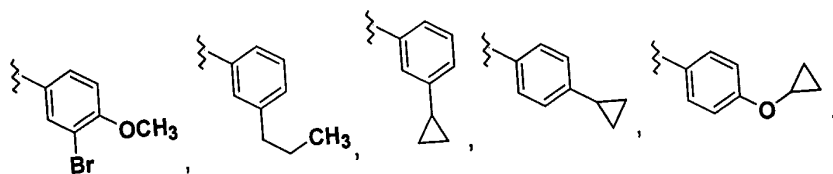
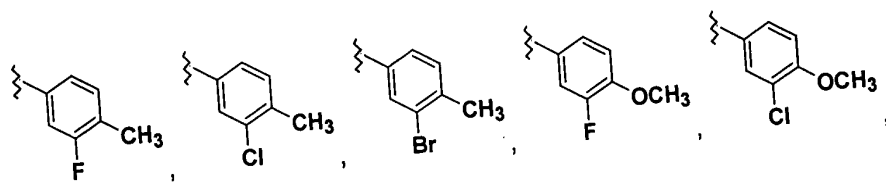
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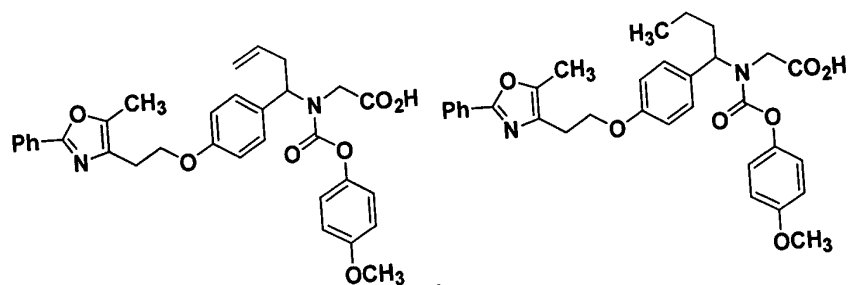
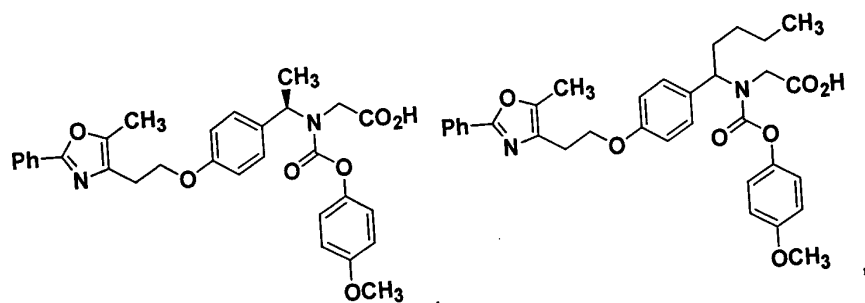
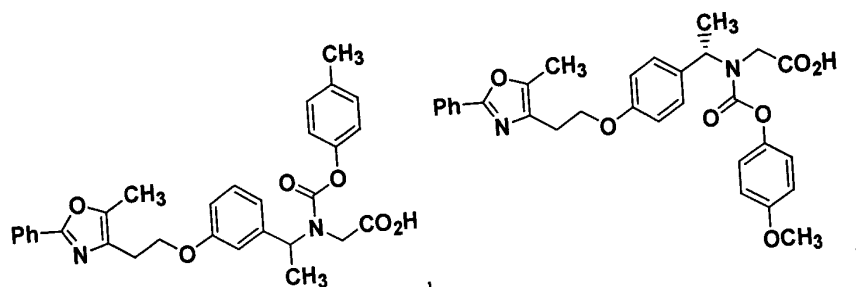


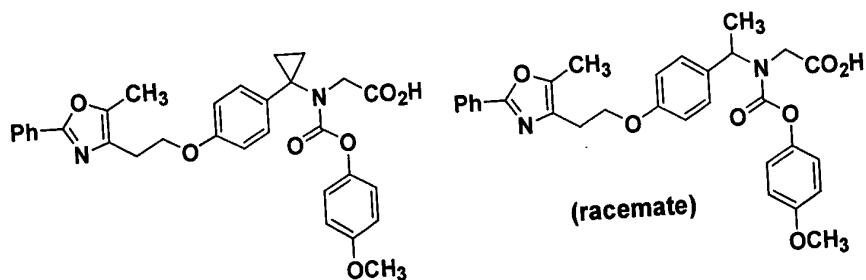
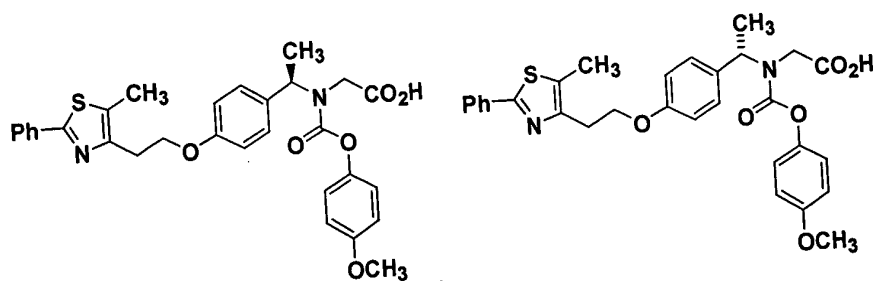
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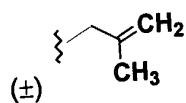
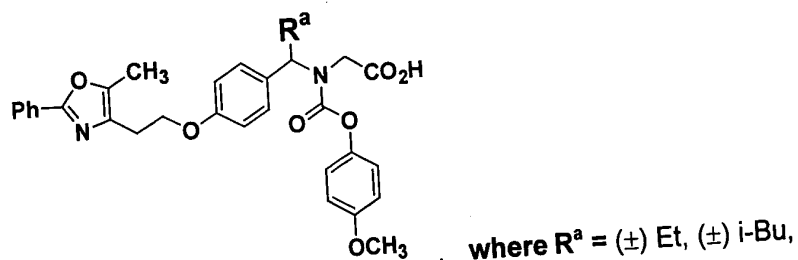
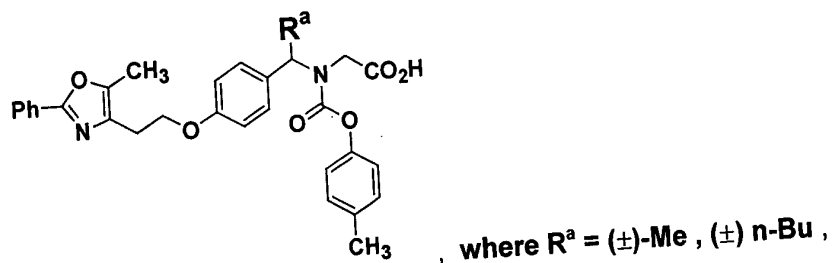


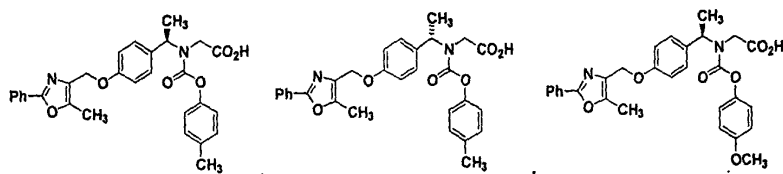
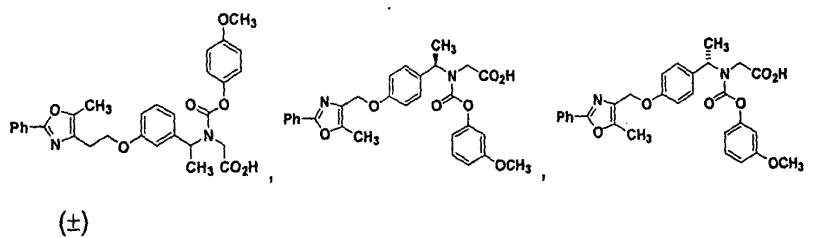
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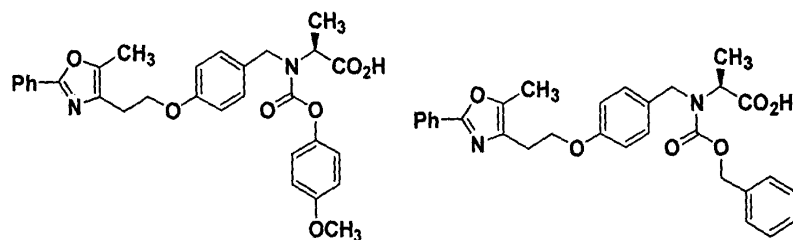
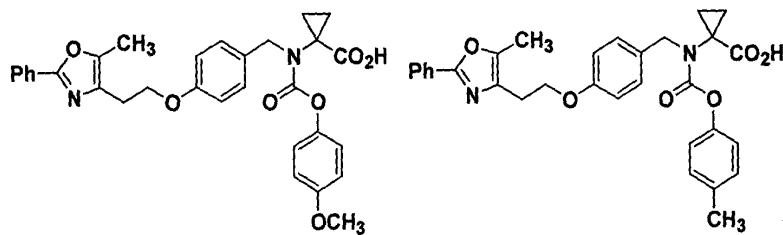
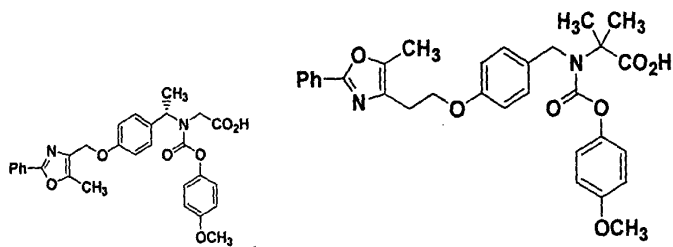
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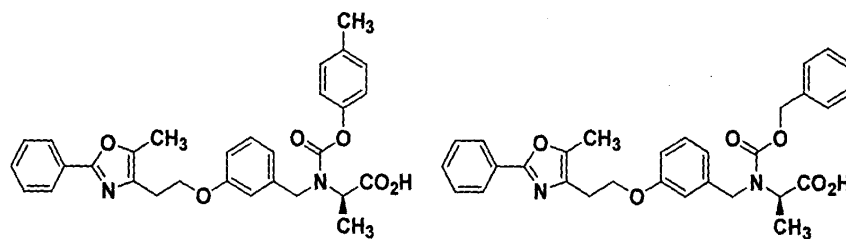
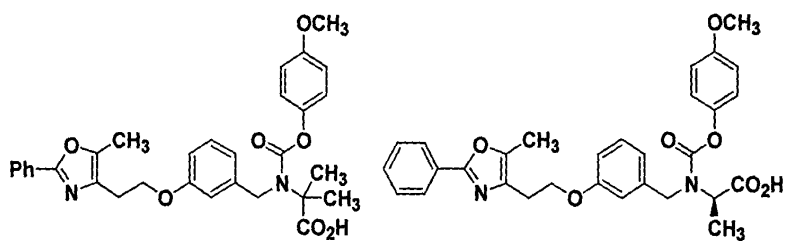
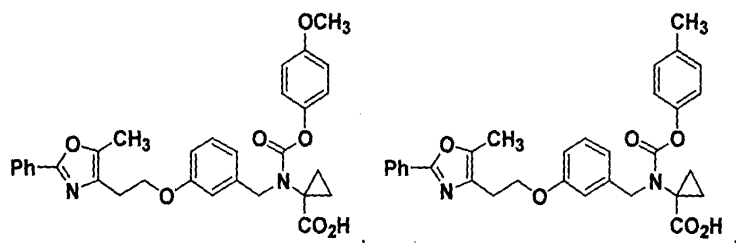
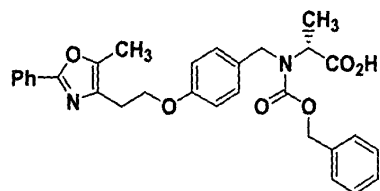
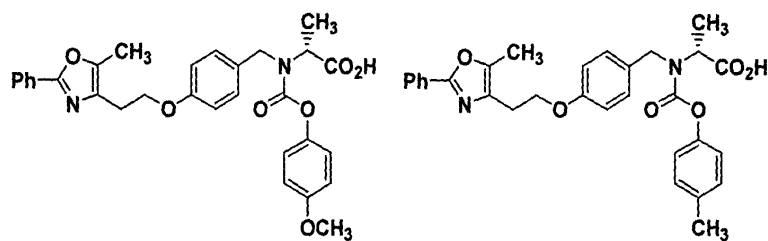


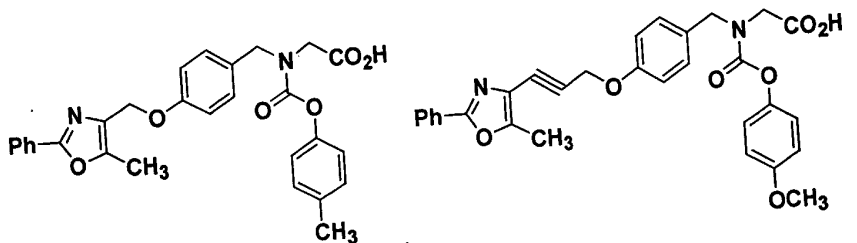
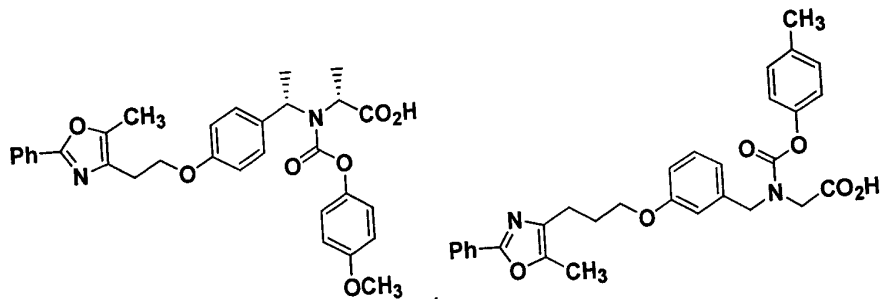
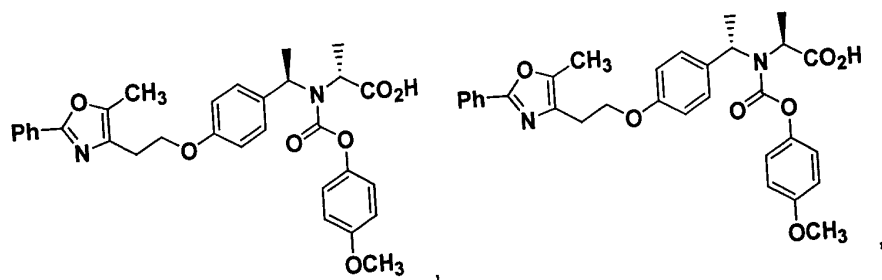
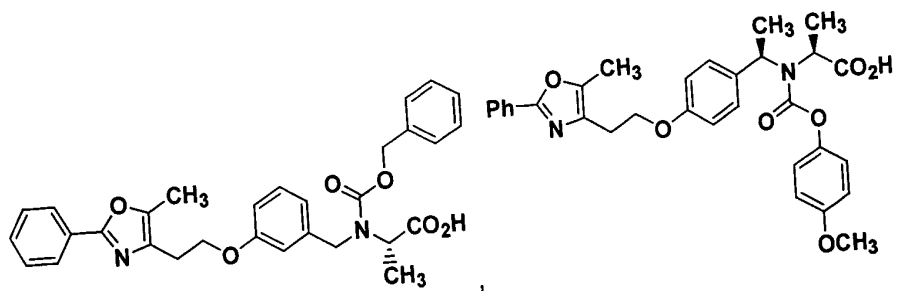
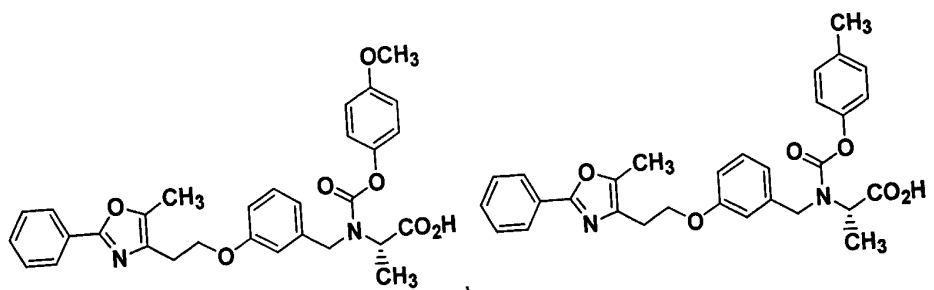


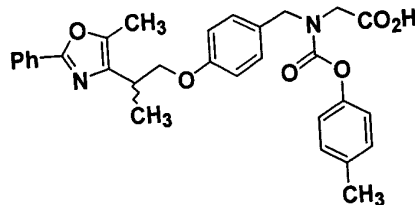
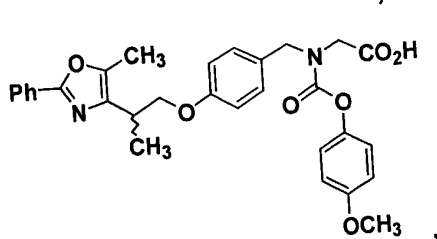
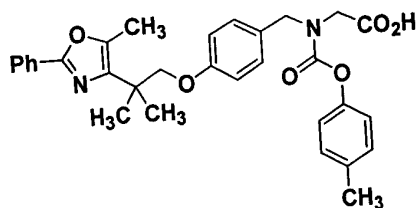
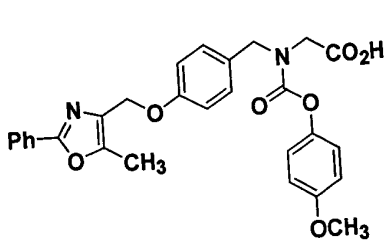
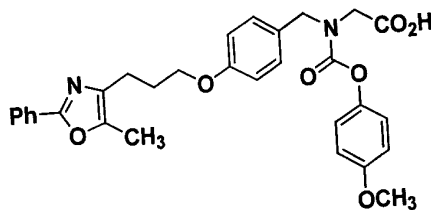
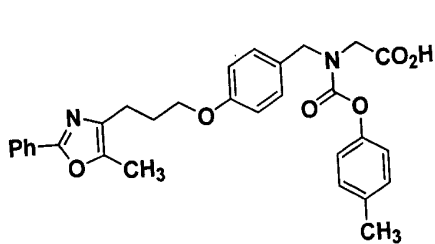
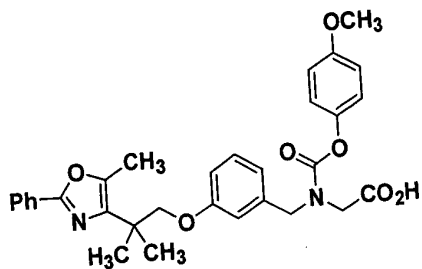
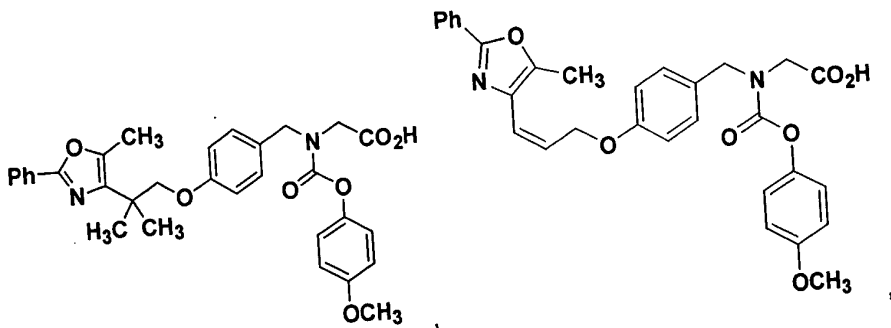
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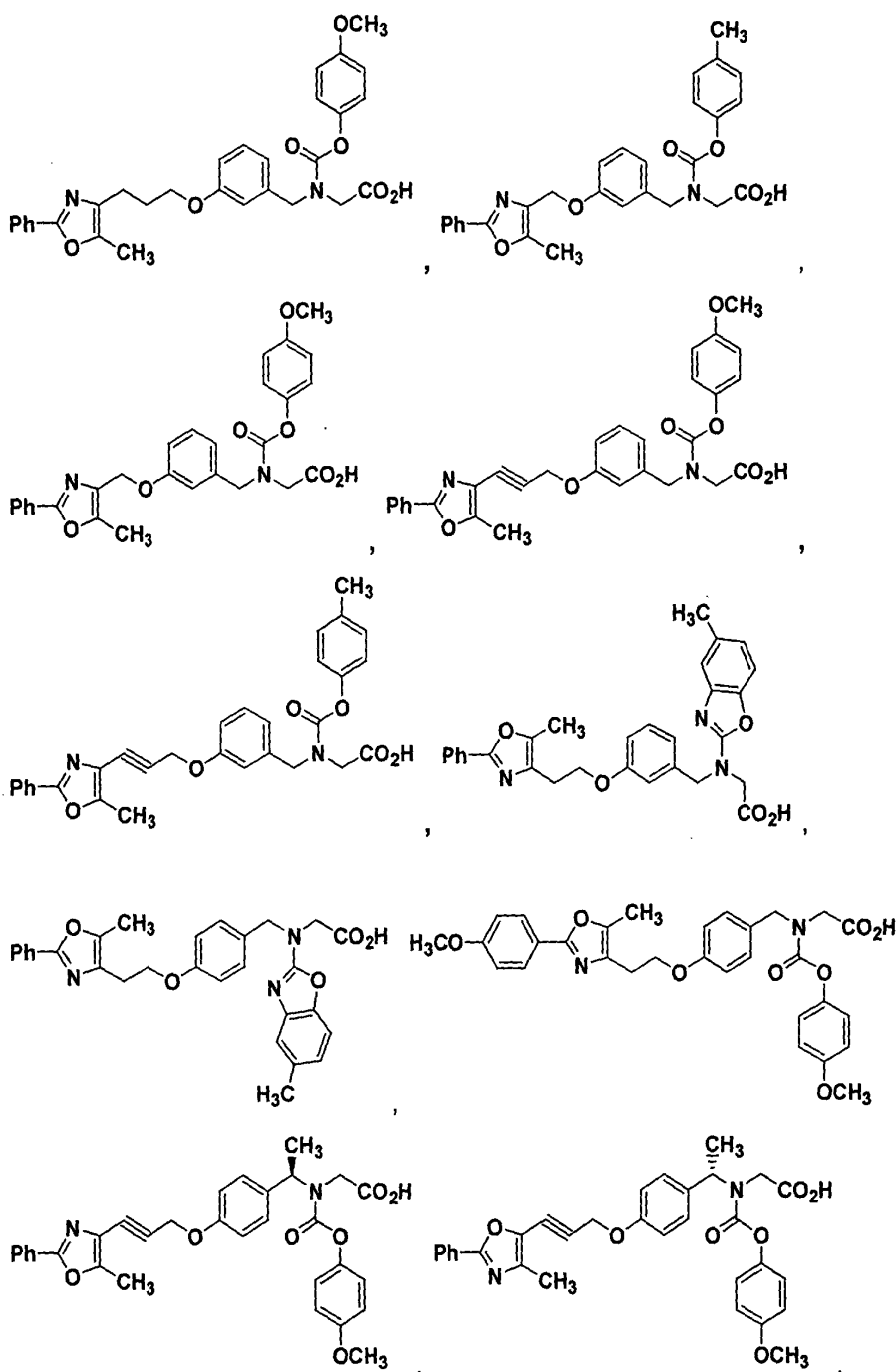
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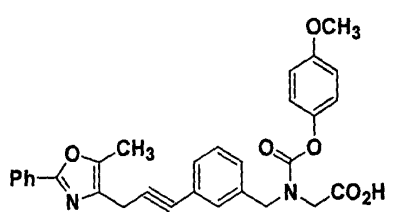
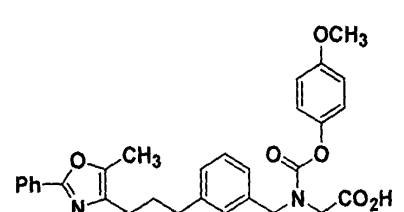
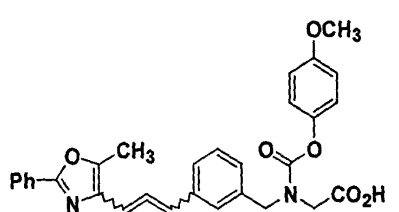
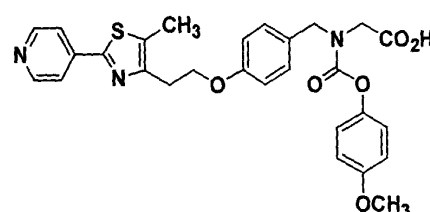
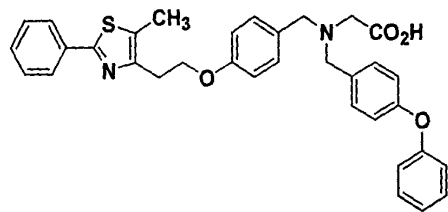
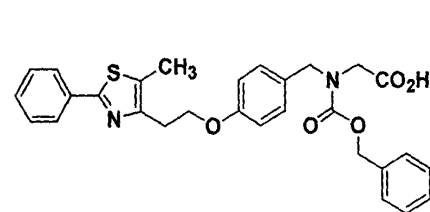
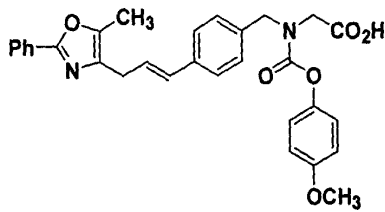
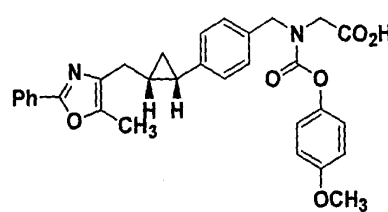
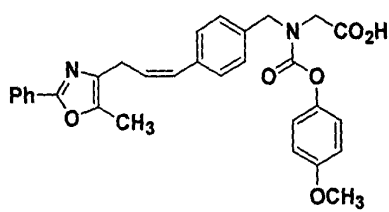
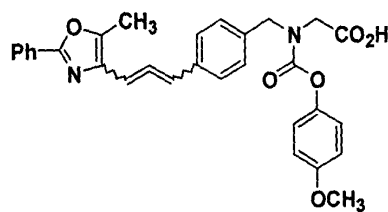
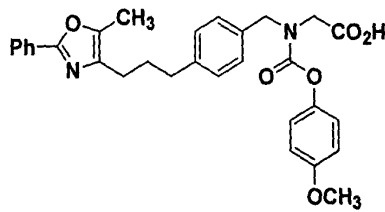
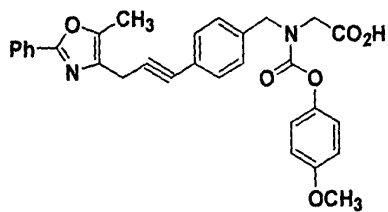




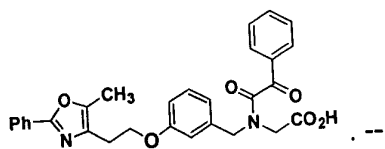
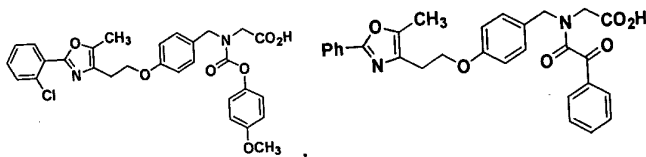
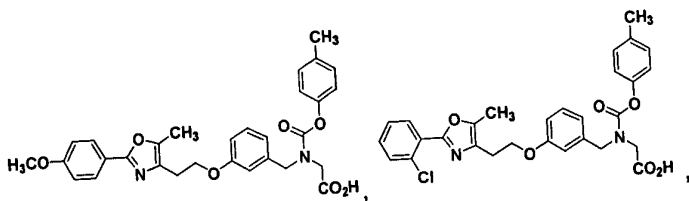
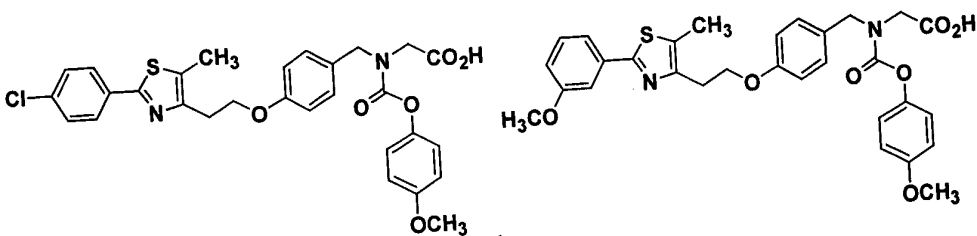
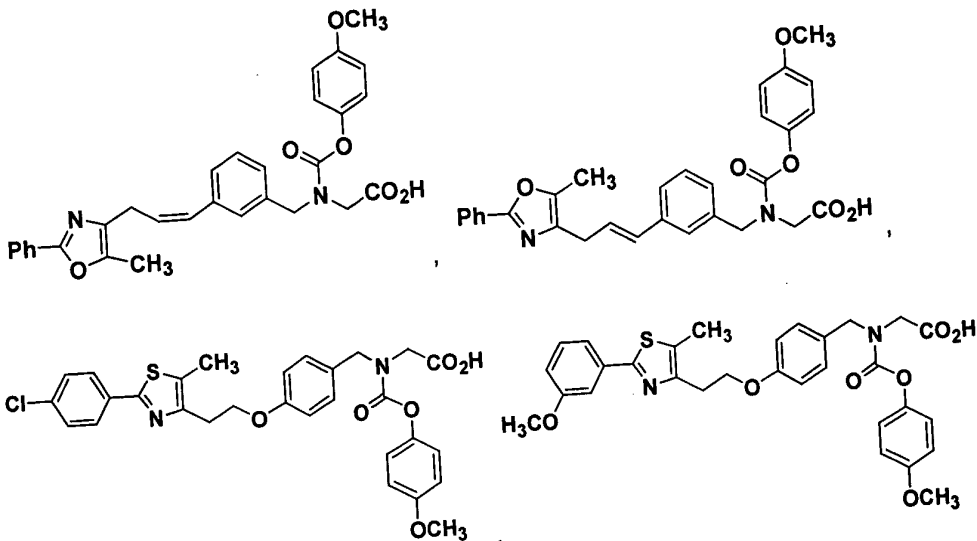




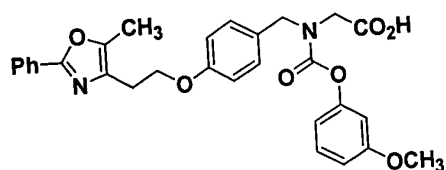
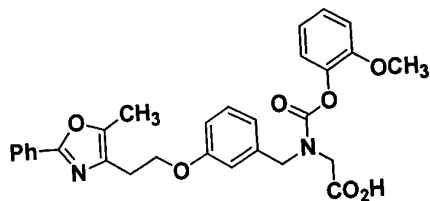
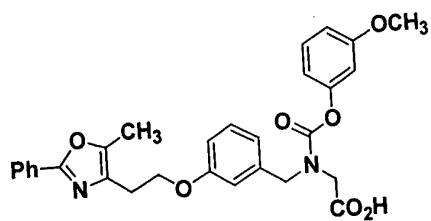
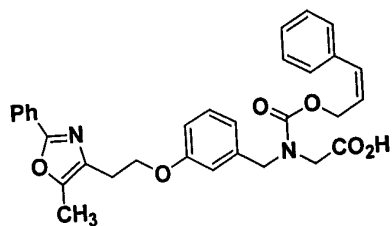
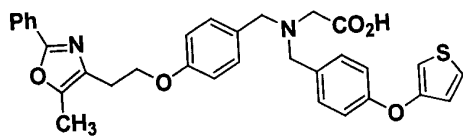
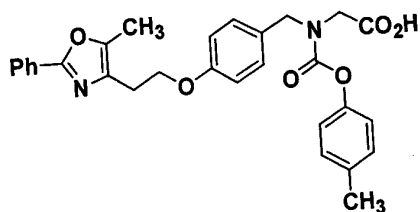
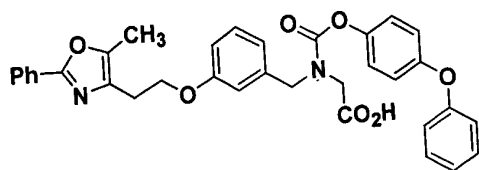
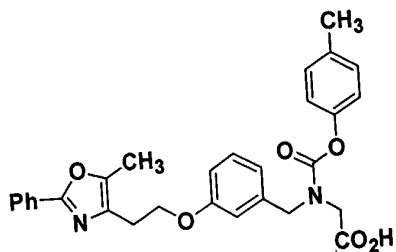
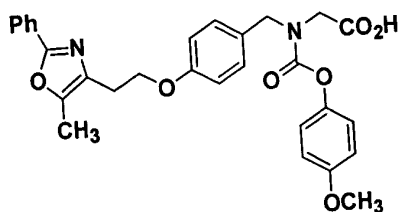
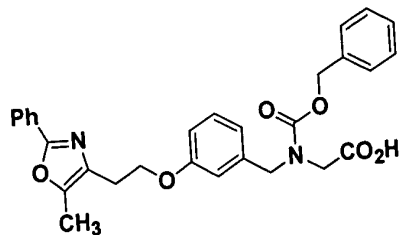
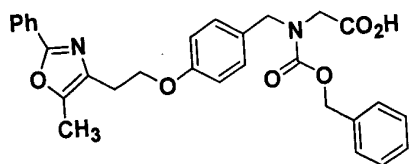


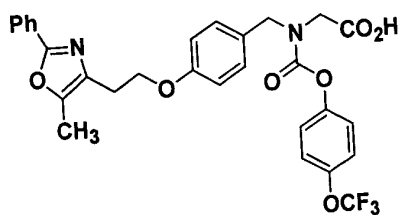
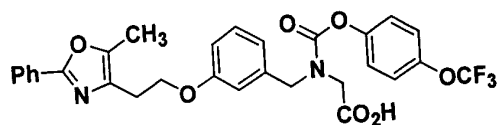
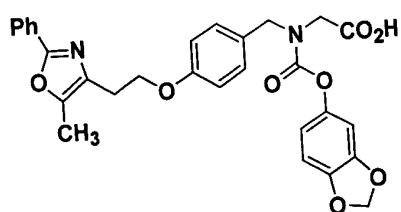
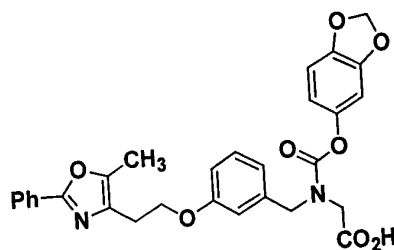
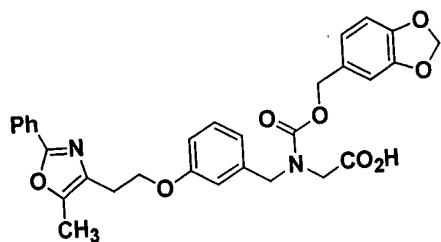
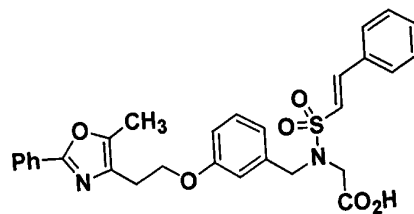
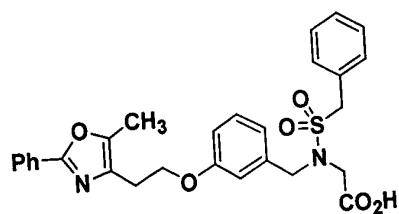


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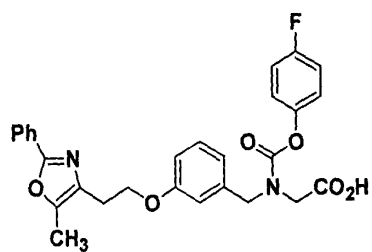
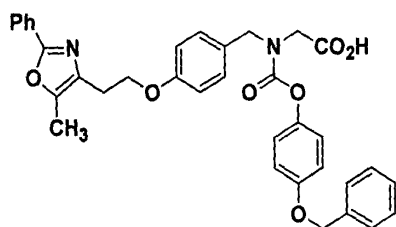
--17. (Amended) The method as defined in Claim 34 wherein the compound employed has the structure



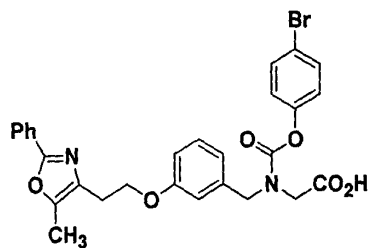
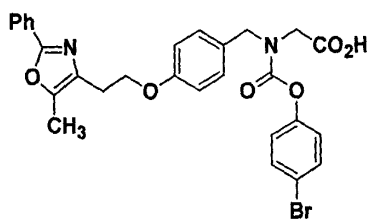
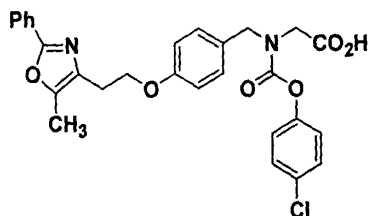
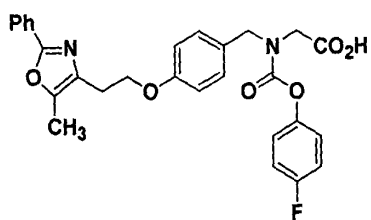


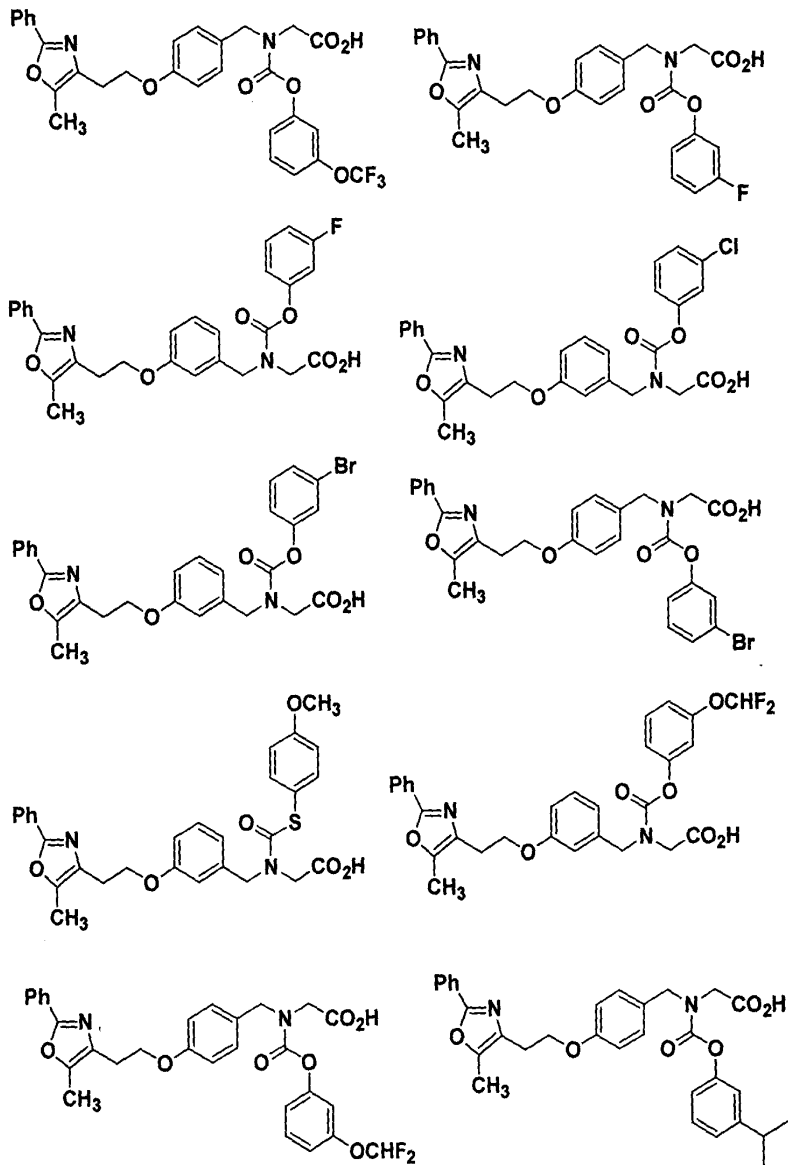
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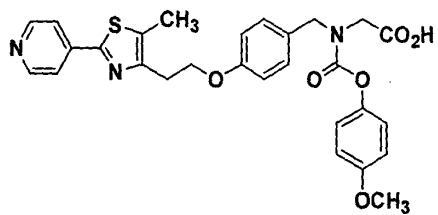
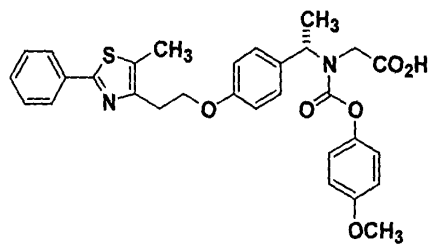
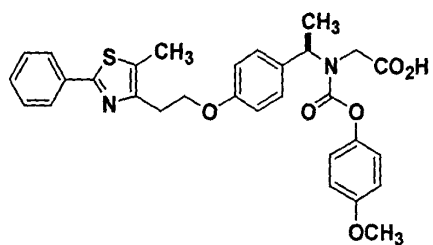
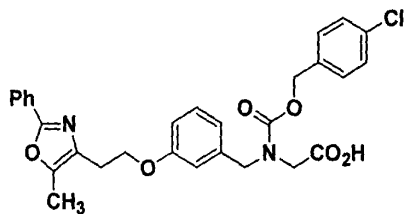
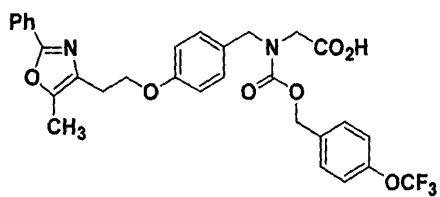
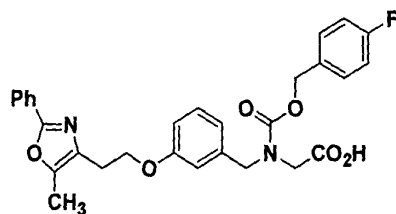
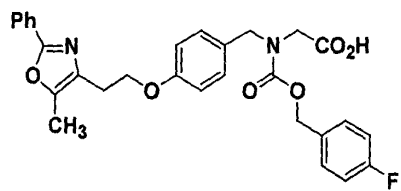
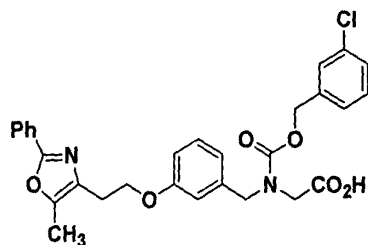
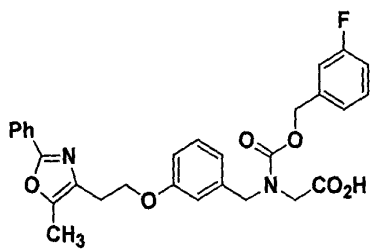
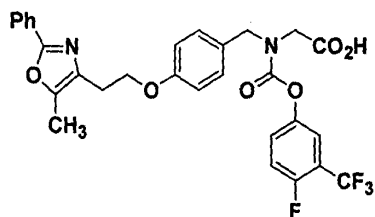
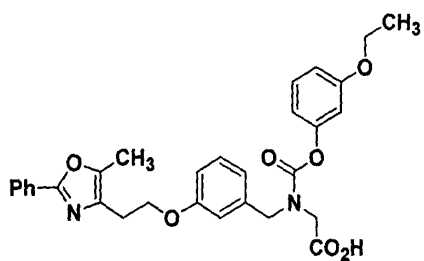
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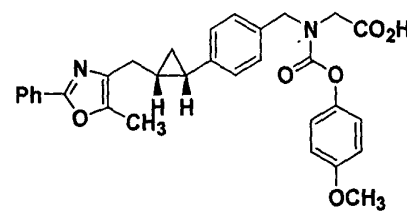
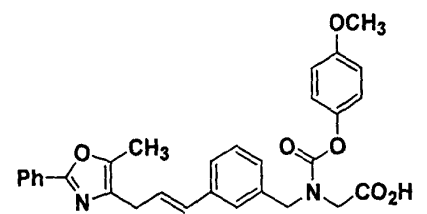
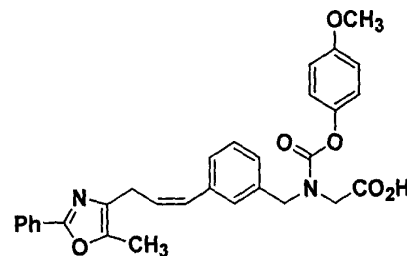
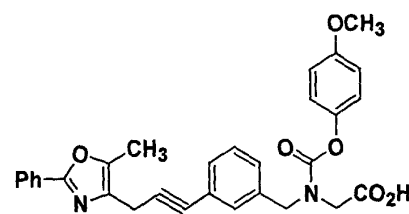
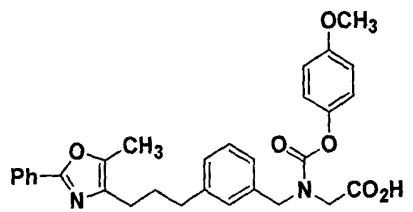
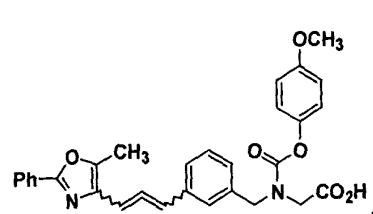
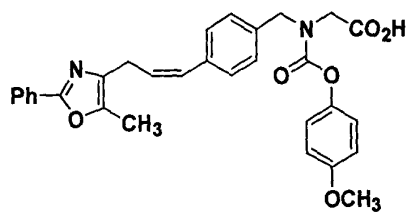
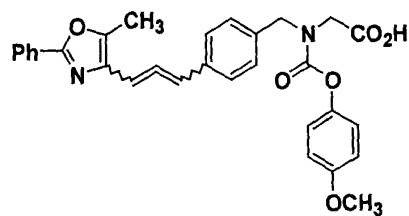
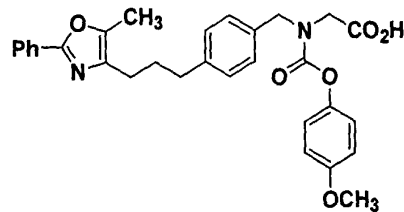
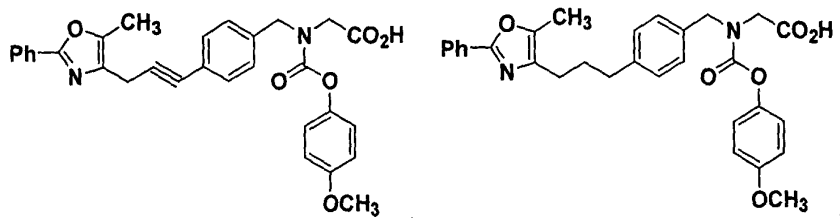




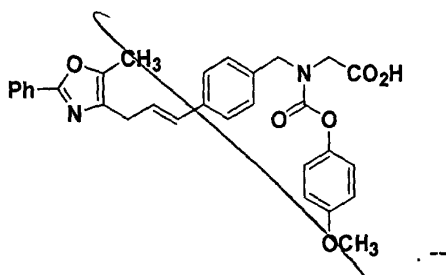


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--18. (Amended) The method as defined in Claim 34 wherein the compound employed has the structure

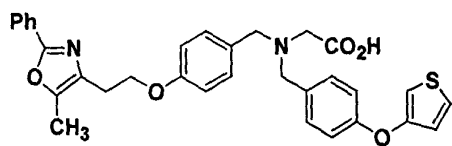
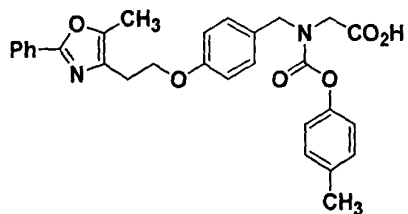
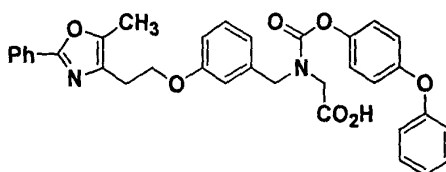
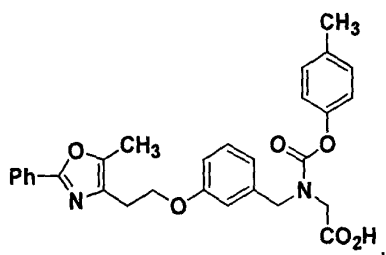
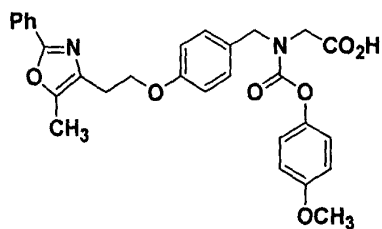
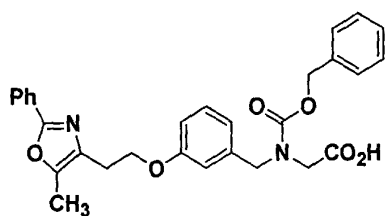
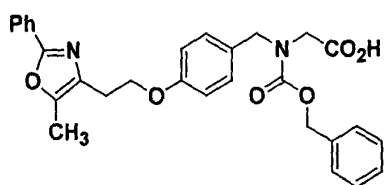


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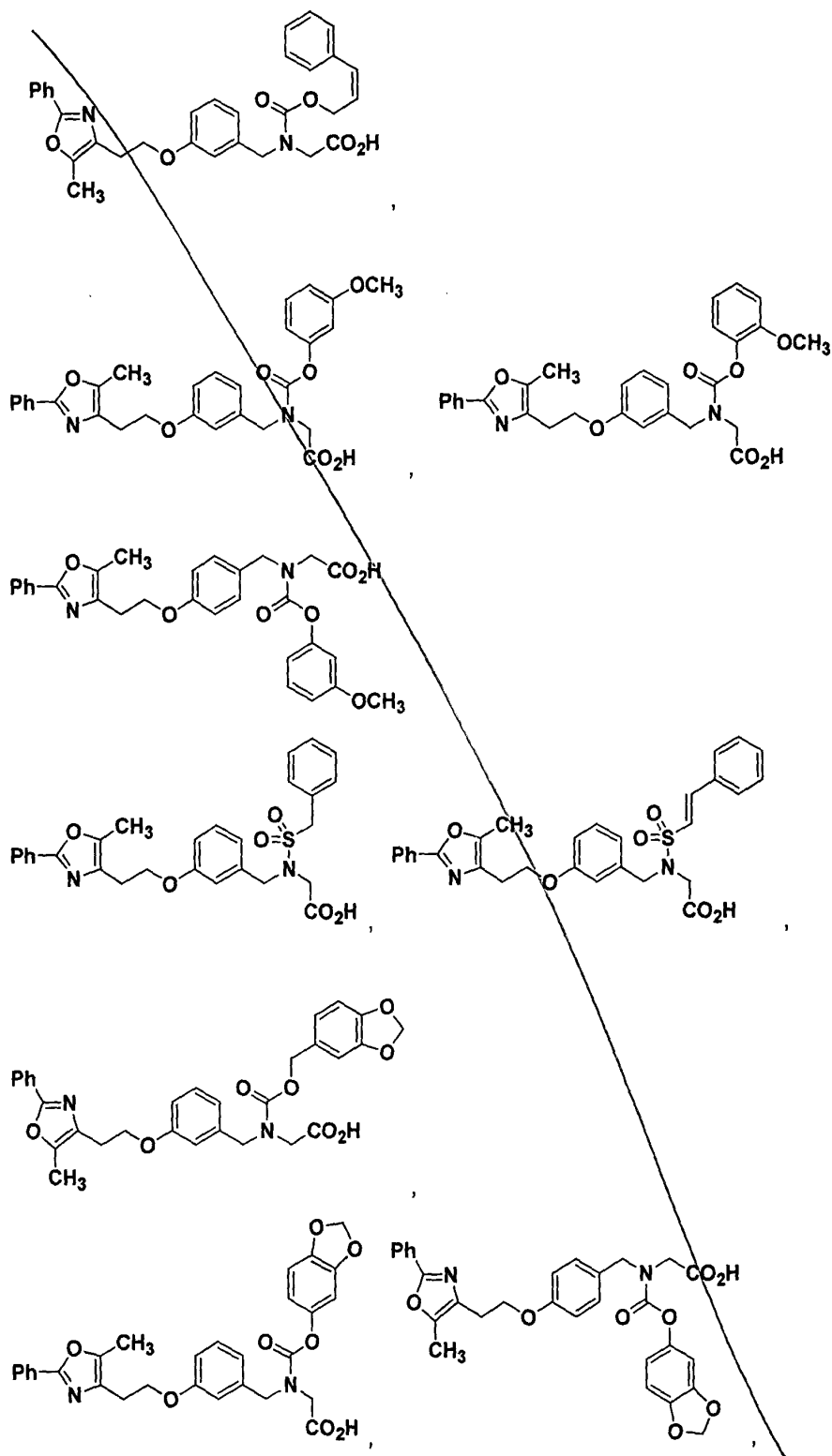
--20. (Amended) The method as defined in Claim 34 wherein the compound employed

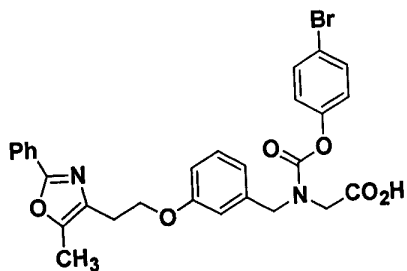
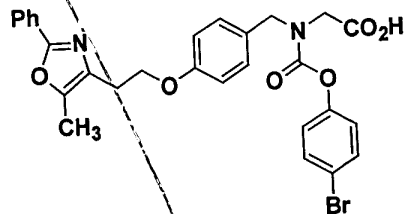
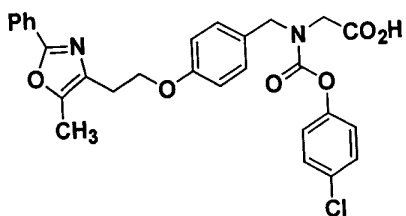
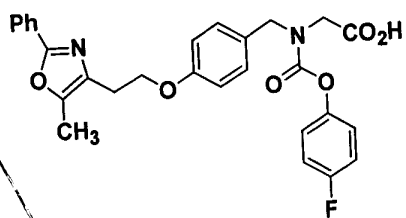
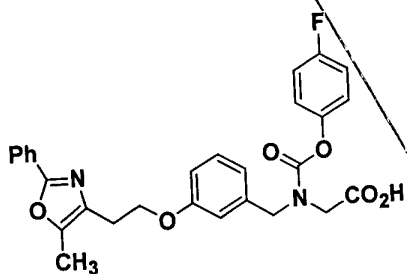
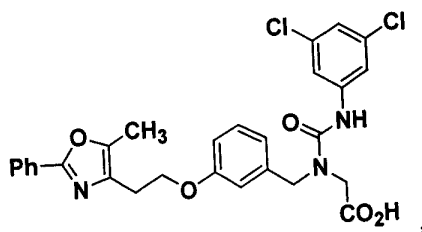
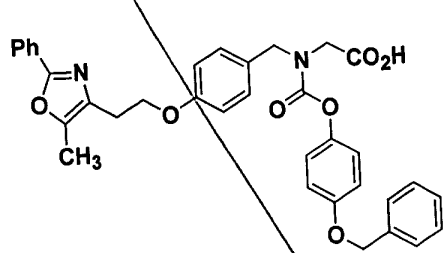
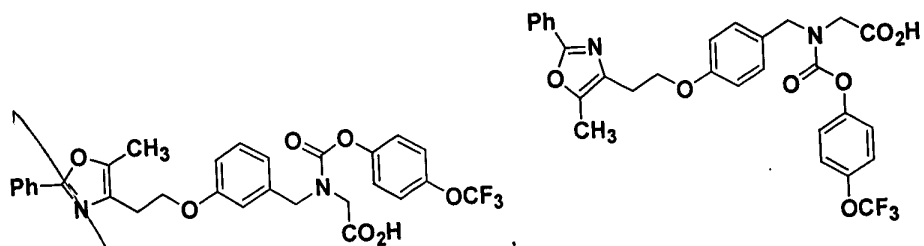
has the structure

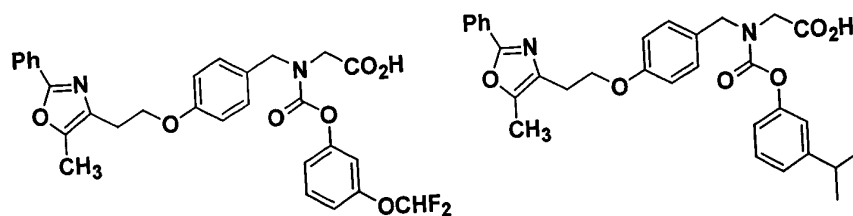
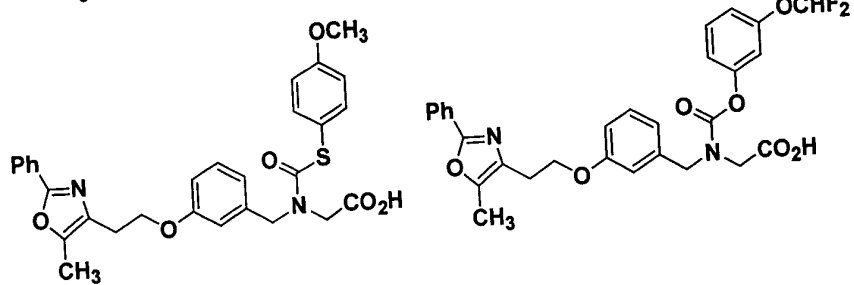
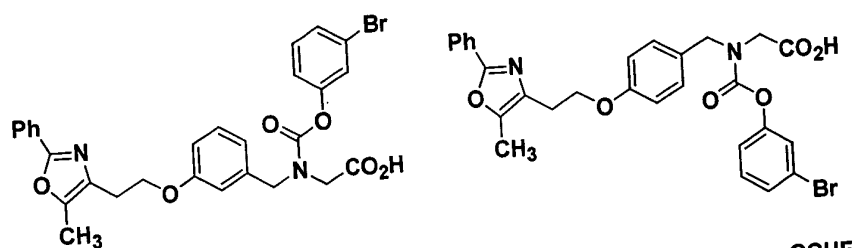
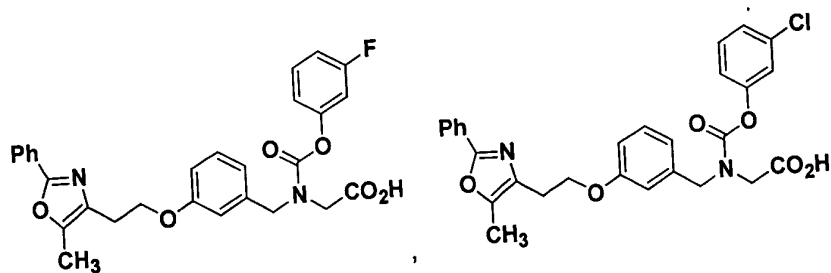
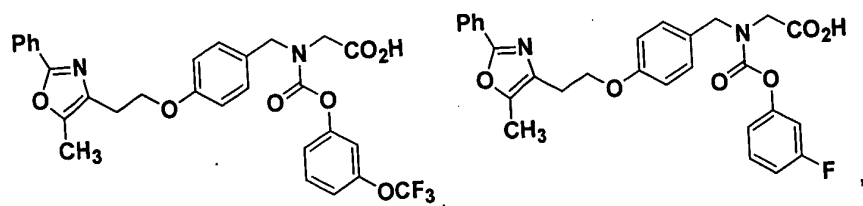


A6

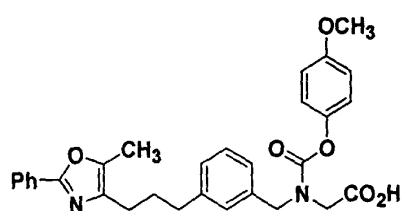
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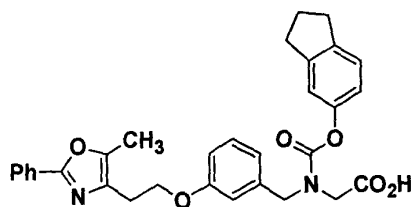
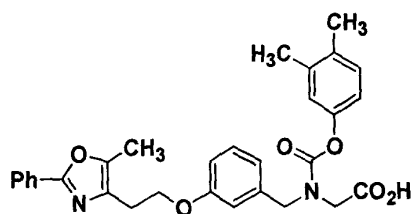
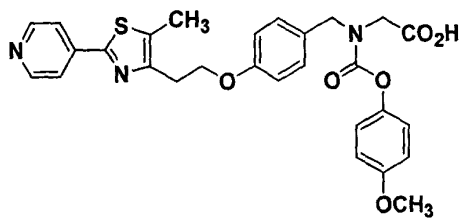
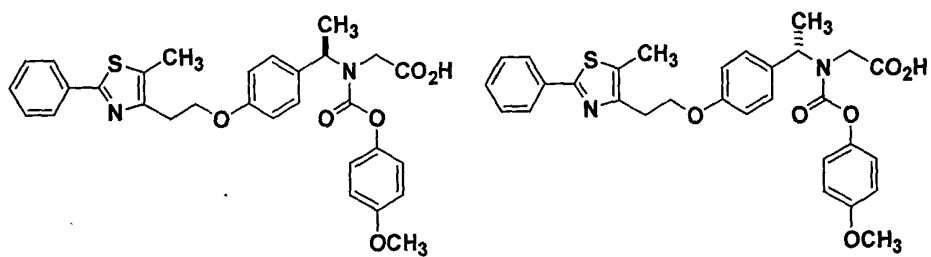
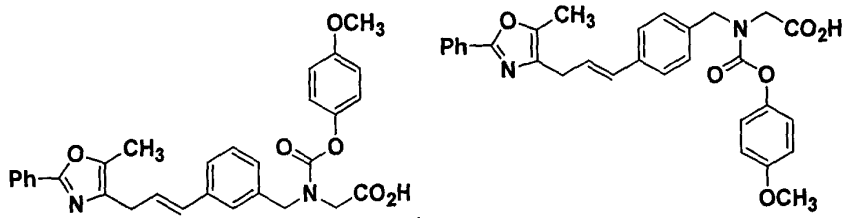
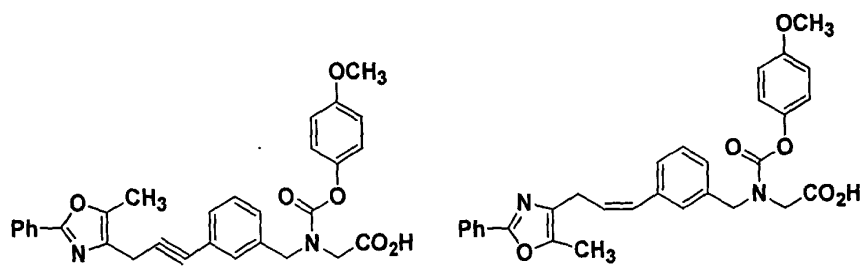


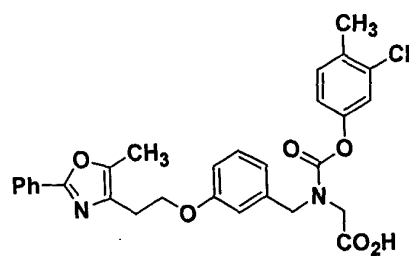
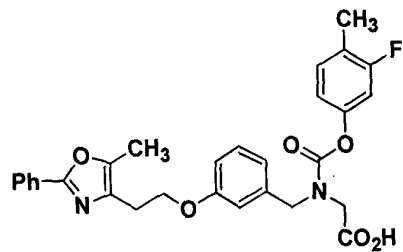
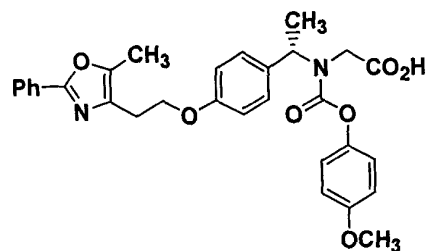
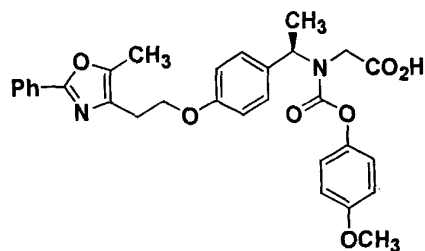
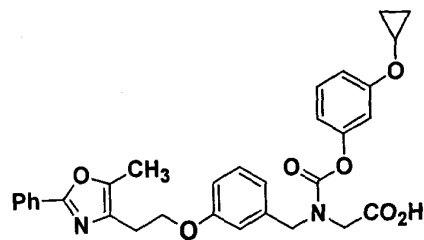
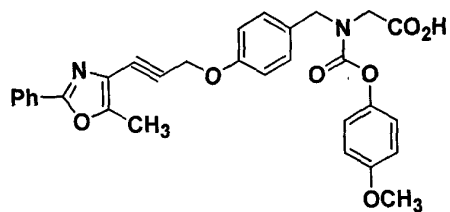
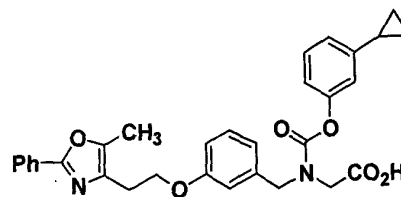
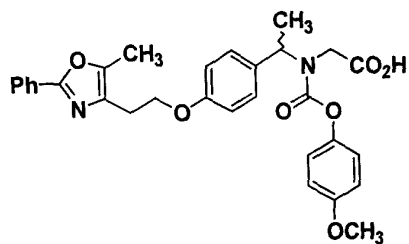
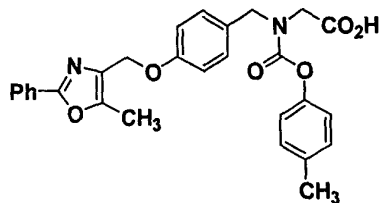
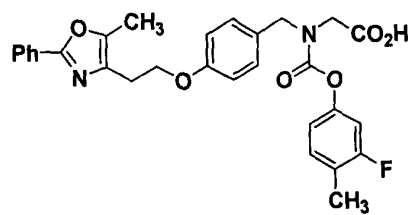


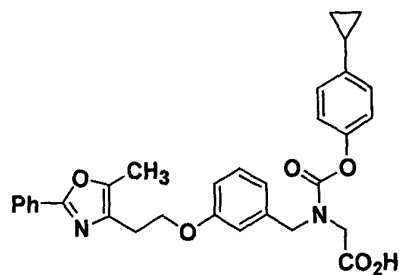
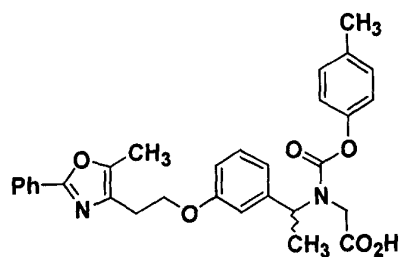
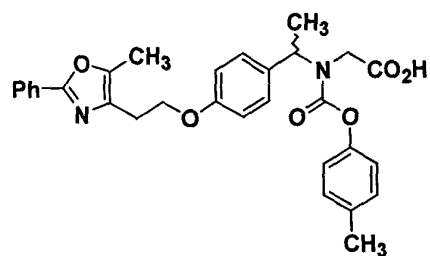
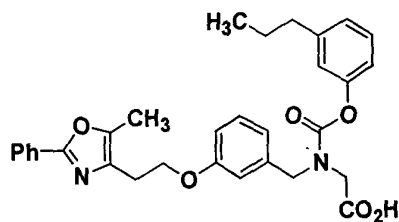
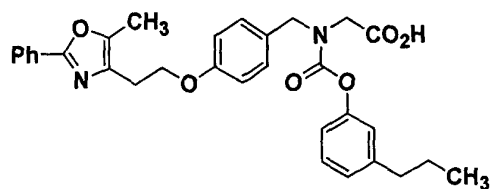
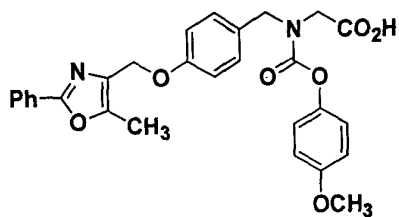
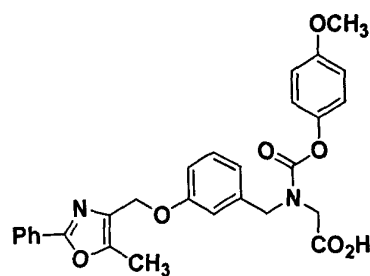
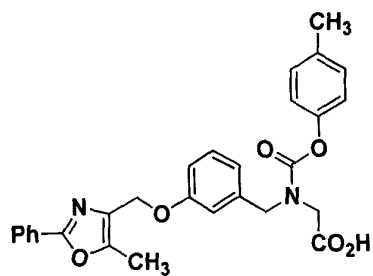
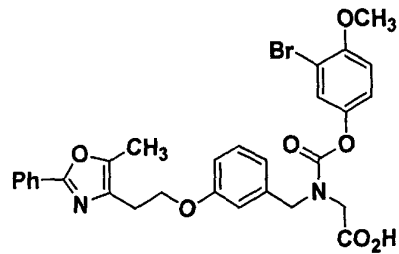
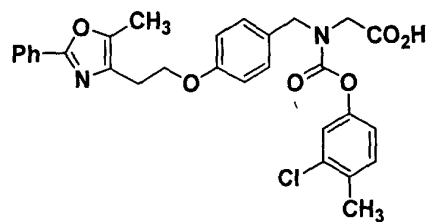
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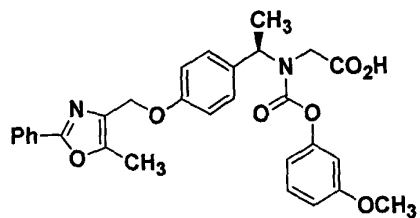
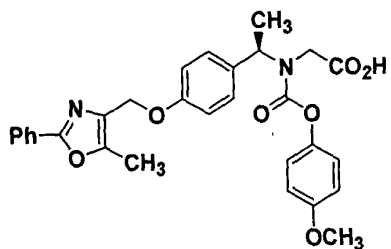
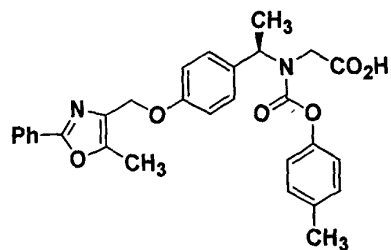
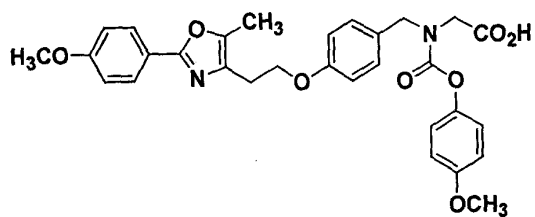
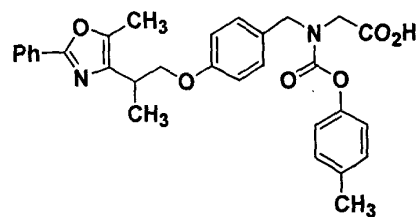
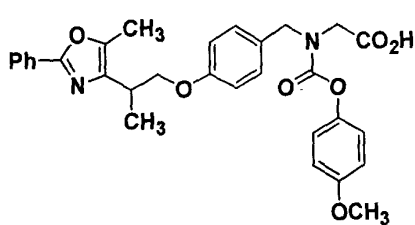
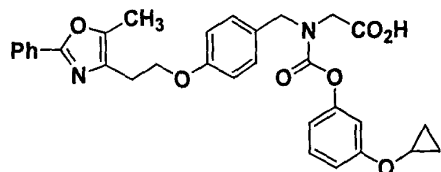
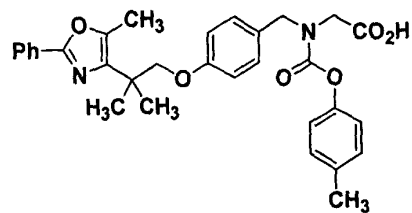
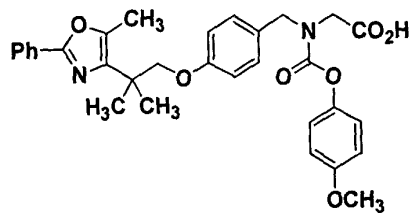
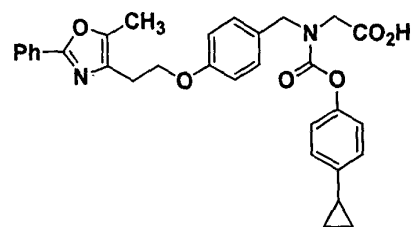
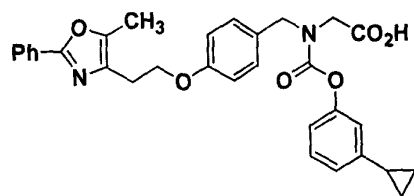


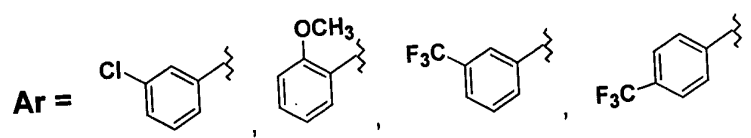
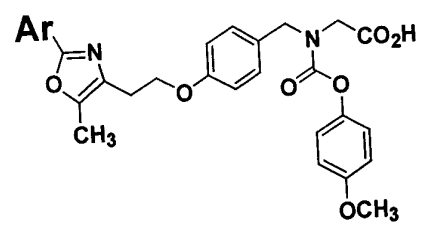
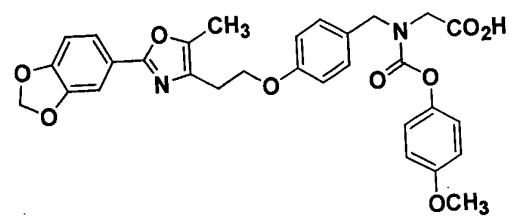
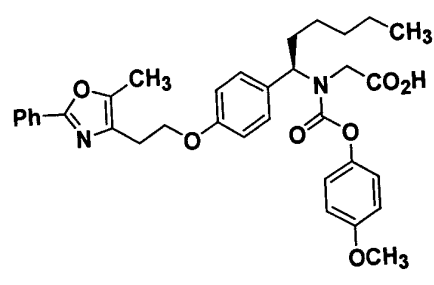
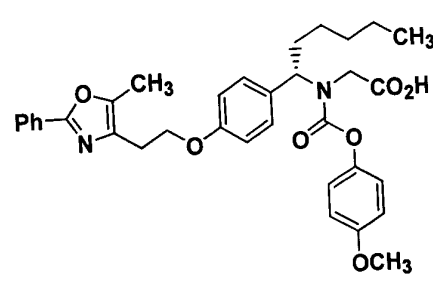
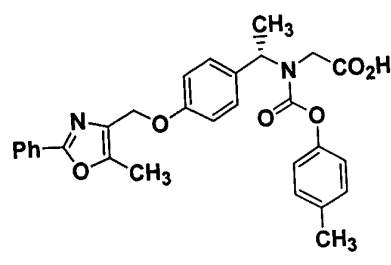
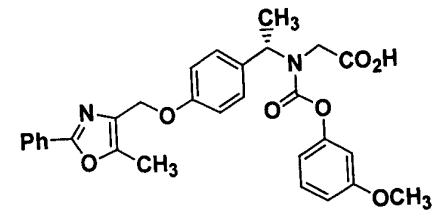
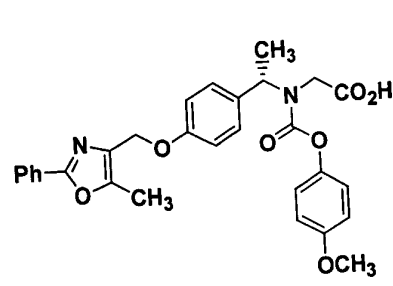
A⁶
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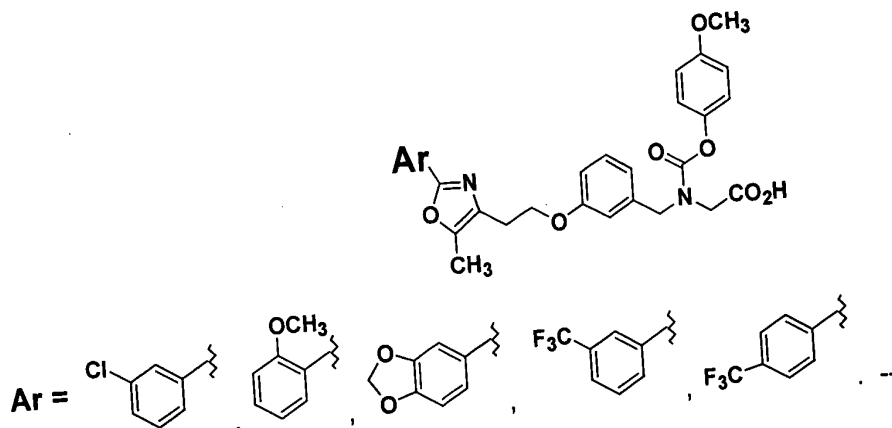




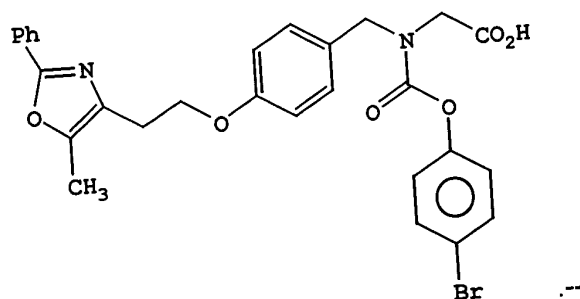




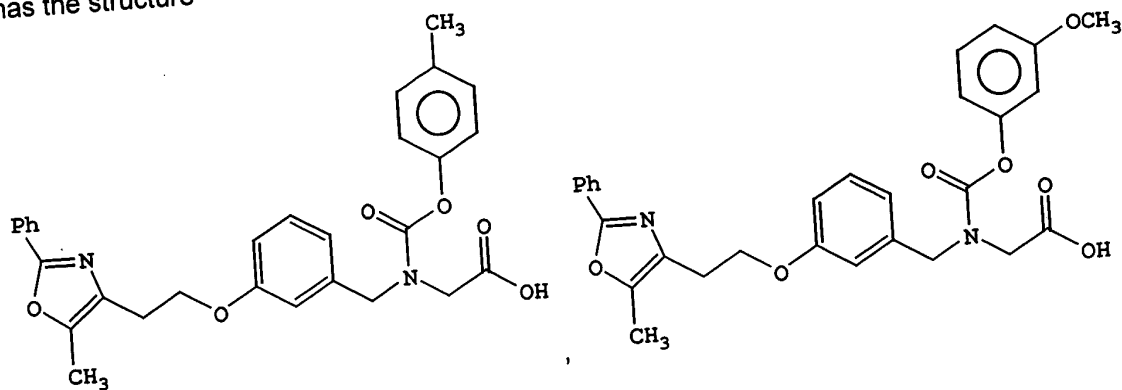
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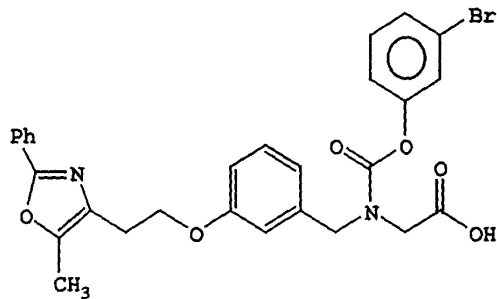


--21. (Amended) The method as defined in Claim 55 wherein the compound employed has the structure

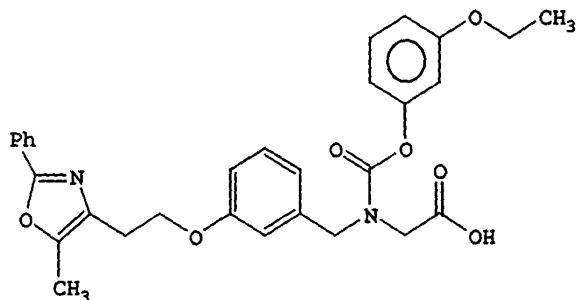


--22. (Amended) The method as defined in Claim 55 wherein the compound employed has the structure

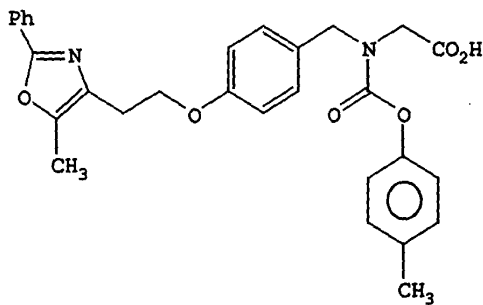




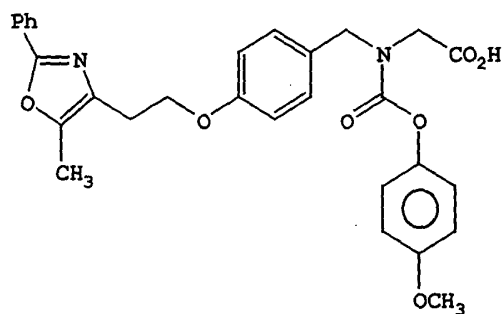
or



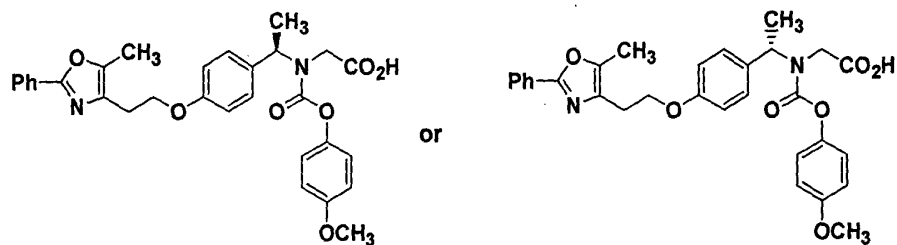
--26. (Amended) The method as defined in Claim 55 wherein the compound employed has the structure



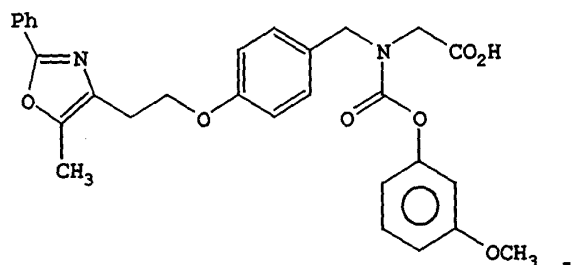
--27. (Amended) The method as defined in Claim 55 wherein the compound employed has the structure



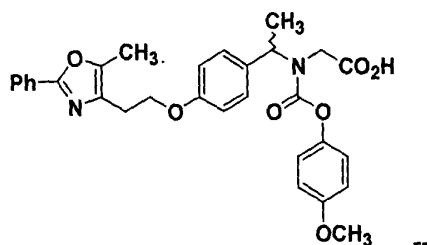
--28. (Amended) The method as defined in Claim 55 wherein the compound employed has the structure



--30. (Amended) The method as defined in Claim 55 wherein the compound employed has the structure

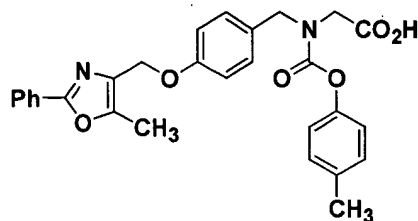


--31. (Amended) The method as defined in Claim 55 wherein the compound employed has the structure



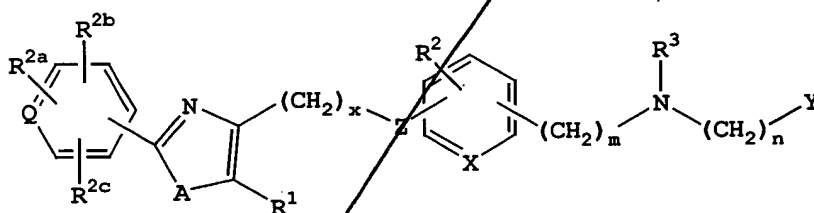
A8
cont.

--32. (Amended) The method as defined in Claim 55 wherein the compound employed has the structure



A9
cont.

--34. (Amended) A method for lowering blood glucose levels or for treating diabetes, or for treating a premalignant disease, an early malignant disease, a malignant disease, or a dysplastic disease, which comprises administering to a patient in need of treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a compound which has the structure



wherein x is 1, 2, 3 or 4; m is 1 or 2; n is 1 or 2;

Q is C or N;

A is O or S;

Z is O or a bond;

R¹ is H or lower alkyl;

X is CH;

R² is H, alkyl, alkoxy, halogen, amino or substituted amino;

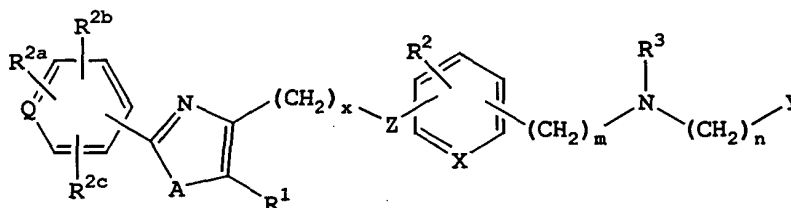
R^{2a}, R^{2b} and R^{2c} are the same or different and are selected from H, alkyl, alkoxy, halogen, amino or substituted amino;

R³ is aryloxycarbonyl, alkyloxycarbonyl, alkynyloxycarbonyl, alkenyloxycarbonyl, alkyl(halo)aryloxycarbonyl, alkyloxy(halo)aryloxycarbonyl, cycloalkylaryloxycarbonyl, cycloalkyloxyaryloxycarbonyl, alkylcarbonylamino, arylcarbonylamino, heteroarylcarbonylamino, alkoxy carbonylamino, aryloxycarbonylamino, heteroaryloxycarbonylamino, alkylsulfonyl, alkenylsulfonyl, heteroaryloxycarbonyl, cycloheteroalkyloxycarbonyl, heteroarylalkenyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxy, alkoxyaryloxycarbonyl, arylalkyloxycarbonyl, alkylaryloxycarbonyl,

alkynyloxycarbonyl, haloalkoxyaryloxycarbonyl, alkoxycarbonylaryloxycarbonyl, aryloxyaryloxycarbonyl, arylalkenyloxycarbonyl, heteroaryloxyarylalkyl, aryloxyarylalkyloxycarbonyl, aryloxyalkyloxycarbonyl, arylalkylsulfonyl, arylthiocarbonyl, arylalkenylsulfonyl, heteroarylsulfonyl, arylsulfonyl, heteroarylalkoxycarbonyl, heteroarylalkyloxyarylalkyl, arylalkenylarylalkyl, arylalkoxycarbonylheteroarylalkyl, heteroaryloxyarylalkyl, arylalkenylheteroarylalkyl or polyhaloalkylaryloxycarbonyl;

Y is CO_2R^4 where R^4 is H or alkyl, or a prodrug ester or Y is a C-linked 1-tetrazole, a phosphinic acid of the structure $\text{P}(\text{O})(\text{OR}^{4a})\text{R}^5$ where R^{4a} is H or a prodrug ester, R^5 is alkyl or aryl or a phosphonic acid of the structure $\text{P}(\text{O})(\text{OR}^{4a})_2$ where R^{4a} is H or a prodrug ester; or stereoisomers thereof, prodrug esters thereof, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof. --

--37.(Amended) A pharmaceutical combination comprising a compound which has the structure



wherein x is 1, 2, 3 or 4; m is 1 or 2; n is 1 or 2;

Q is C or N;

A is O or S;

Z is O or a bond;

R^1 is H or lower alkyl;

X is CH;

R^2 is H, alkyl, alkoxy, halogen, amino or substituted amino;

R^{2a} , R^{2b} and R^{2c} are the same or different and are selected from H, alkyl, alkoxy, halogen, amino or substituted amino;

R^3 is aryloxycarbonyl, alkyloxycarbonyl, alkynyloxycarbonyl, alkenyloxycarbonyl, alkyl(halo)aryloxycarbonyl, alkyloxy(halo)aryloxycarbonyl, cycloalkylaryloxycarbonyl, cycloalkyloxyaryloxycarbonyl, alkylcarbonylamino, arylcarbonylamino, heteroarylcarbonylamino, alkoxycarbonylamino, aryloxycarbonylamino, heteroaryloxycarbonylamino, alkylsulfonyl, alkenylsulfonyl, heteroaryloxycarbonyl, cycloheteroalkyloxycarbonyl, heteroarylalkenyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxy, alkoxyaryloxycarbonyl, arylalkyloxycarbonyl, alkylaryloxycarbonyl,

alkynyloxycarbonyl, haloalkoxyaryloxycarbonyl, alkoxycarbonylaryloxycarbonyl, aryloxyaryloxycarbonyl, arylalkenyloxycarbonyl, heteroaryloxyarylalkyl, aryloxyarylalkyloxycarbonyl, aryloxyalkyloxycarbonyl, arylalkylsulfonyl, arylthiocarbonyl, arylalkenylsulfonyl, heteroarylsulfonyl, arylsulfonyl, heteroarylalkoxycarbonyl, heteroarylalkyloxyarylalkyl, arylalkenylarylalkyl, arylalkoxycarbonylheteroarylalkyl, heteroaryloxyarylalkyl, arylalkenylheteroarylalkyl or polyhaloalkylaryloxycarbonyl;

Y is CO_2R^4 where R^4 is H or alkyl, or a prodrug ester or Y is a C-linked 1-tetrazole, a phosphinic acid of the structure $\text{P}(\text{O})(\text{OR}^{4a})\text{R}^5$ where R^{4a} is H or a prodrug ester, R^5 is alkyl or aryl or a phosphonic acid of the structure $\text{P}(\text{O})(\text{OR}^{4a})_2$ where R^{4a} is H or a prodrug ester;

or stereoisomers thereof, prodrug esters thereof, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, and a lipid-lowering agent, a lipid modulating agent, an antidiabetic agent, an anti-obesity agent, an antihypertensive agent, a platelet aggregation inhibitor, and/or an antiosteoporosis agent. --

--39. (Amended) The combination as defined in Claim 37 wherein the antidiabetic agent is 1, 2, 3 or more of a biguanide, a sulfonyl urea, a glucosidase inhibitor, a $\text{PPAR}\alpha$ agonist, a $\text{PPAR}\gamma$ agonist, a $\text{PPAR}\alpha/\gamma$ dual agonist, an SGLT2 inhibitor, a DP4 inhibitor, an aP2 inhibitor, an insulin sensitizer, a glucagon-like peptide-I (GLP-I), insulin and/or a meglitinide; the anti-obesity agent is a beta 3 adrenergic agonist, a lipase inhibitor, a serotonin (and dopamine) reuptake inhibitor, a thyroid receptor agonist, an aP2 inhibitor and/or an anorectic agent; the lipid lowering agent is an MTP inhibitor, an HMG CoA reductase inhibitor, a squalene synthetase inhibitor, a fibric acid derivative, an upregulator of LDL receptor activity, a lipoxygenase inhibitor, or an ACAT inhibitor; the antihypertensive agent is an ACE inhibitor, angiotensin II receptor antagonist, NEP/ACE inhibitor, calcium channel blocker and/or β -adrenergic blocker. --

--40. (Amended) The combination as defined in Claim 39 wherein the antidiabetic agent is 1, 2, 3 or more of metformin, glyburide, glimepiride, glipryride, glipizide, chlorpropamide, gliclazide, acarbose, miglitol, pioglitazone, troglitazone, rosiglitazone, insulin, GI-262570, isaglitazone, JTT-501, NN-2344, L895645, YM-440, R-119702, AJ9677, repaglinide, nateglinide, KAD1129, AR-HO39242, GW-409544, KRP297, AC2993, LY315902, P32/98 and/or NVP-DPP-728A; the anti-obesity agent is orlistat, ATL-962, AJ9677, L750355, CP331648, sibutramine, topiramate, axokine, dexamphetamine, phentermine, phenylpropanolamine, and/or mazindol; the lipid lowering agent is pravastatin, lovastatin, simvastatin, atorvastatin, cerivastatin, fluvastatin,

